FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 JANUARY 1984

ICO Summit

Readmission of Egypt — The Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) formed a committee headed by Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure and including the foreign ministers of Pakistan and Iraq to go to Egypt for talks with President Husni Mubarak to ascertain whether the ICO resolutions "agree" with Egypt's intentions "concerning their implementation and observation," Moroccan King Hassan II declared at a 20 January press conference broadcast by Rabat radio. While admitting that the ICO's attitude toward the Camp David accords seems "irreconcilable" with that of Egypt, Hassan said he has learned from Mubarak that "as far as Egypt is concerned Camp David is dead in the sense that it has given up its fruit." In an interview broadcast by Paris radio the same day, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali reaffirmed Egypt's rejection of conditional readmission into the ICO, stipulating that Egypt is ready to reenter the organization "barring any condition that might curtail its sovereignty or might restrict its policies, notably the agreements it concluded with the State of Israel." Meanwhile, a Cairo radio commentary welcomed the call for Egypt's return as a "positive confirmation of facts" that will be followed by "further positive steps by moderate forces."

Damascus television deplored the invitation to Egypt to resume its ICO membership as the result of U.S. "pressure" on some Islamic states to "peddle some resolutions of interest to the U.S. Administration and its policy in the region." The television stressed that the call for Egypt's readmission was conditional on the latter's acceptance of ICO resolutions, including those which reject the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. Meanwhile, an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman condemned the move as proof of the rapid growth of "pro-American tendencies" and "the eclipse of Islamic values" in the ICO, according to Tehran radio. In his 20 January press conference, King Hassan said Iran had "lost even its friends" by its boycott of the conference.

Egyptian-Arab Contacts — Jordanian Royal Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah visited Cairo on 21 January to deliver a message to President Mubarak from King Husayn dealing with issues of joint interest and the ICO's decision to restore Egypt's membership, Amman Radio reported. Mubarak also discussed "regional issues" in telephone conversations with King Husayn and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn over the weekend, according to Cairo radio. "Well informed" sources in Amman cited by Damascus radio said Mubarak may visit Jordan and Iraq in February and may also attend a summit meeting with King Husayn, Saddam Husayn, and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to discuss a draft plan for the Palestine question.

Other ICO Issues — The ICO summit elected King Hassan chairman of the Jerusalem Committee for another 3-year term, Rabat radio reported. The radio also broadcast the text of the "Casablanca charter," a document unanimously adopted at the summit conference which announced the establishment of "regional reconciliation and concord committees" designed to settle differences and conflicts among Islamic states. The members of each committee will be drawn from regions outside the particular area under scrutiny in order to ensure "objective and unbiased work," the charter stated.

Reacting to the ICO resolution on Afghanistan, BAKHTAR said the DRA believes that raising the Afghan issue at Islamic forums is not only a "clear deviation" from the ICO's principles but also "open intervention" in Afghanistan's internal affairs. If the authors of the "biased resolution" really want to peacefully solve Afghanistan's problems, they must realize that the only way to a peaceful solution lies in direct negotiations, not launching propaganda campaigns against the DRA, BAKHTAR declared.

Libya

The secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Rome was seriously wounded by two gunmen near his home on 21 January, ANSA reported. A group called "Al-Burkan," Arabic for "the volcano," claimed responsibility in a 22 January telephone call to the ASSOCIATED PRESS office in London, AFP announced. JANA said it is "generally believed in political circles in Rome" that "elements of the wing of Yasir 'Arafat" were behind the attempted assassination. In a statement carried by the Palestinian news agency WAFA and reported by AFP, a PLO spokesman denied any connection with the shooting.

PLO Affairs

Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Algeria to inspect Palestinian forces in Tebessa, APS reported on 22 January. Earlier, 'Arafat returned to Tunis after reviewing the results of the ICO summit with King Hassan II, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. He also met with Saudi King Fahd before leaving Morocco, SPA noted. In Amman, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir held talks with King Husayn and announced that 'Arafat will visit Jordan shortly to discuss Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation with the king, according to Amman radio and AFP. Meanwhile, Khalid and Hani al-Hasan, who are both Fatah Central Committee members, expressed support for 'Arafat's visit to Cairo, according to reports by Baghdad Voice of PLO.

Lebanon

Military/Security Developments — Lebanese Army positions in the mountain area and around Beirut came under fire again over the weekend, Beirut radio reported. Clashes in the Ash-Shuf region resulted in 10 people killed and about 50 wounded, according to a clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon report.

A spokesman for the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) said the Army is responsible for the cease-fire violations and affirmed that the "nationalist forces" would reply to the shelling of the Ash-Shuf and Al-Kharrub regions "with all available means," Damascus radio reported. Earlier, a spokesman for the Lebanese National Salvation Front (NSF) affirmed NSF commitment to the cease-fire agreement and warned the Army against resorting to indiscriminate shelling because it is "a double-edged weapon," Damascus radio announced. The NSF statement also claimed that its forces have "never" shelled civilian areas where government and Phalangist artillery is located except in response to "destructive artillery shelling." However, in reporting the most recent clashes, Beirut radio said the Army "refrained" from returning fire but was forced to retaliate against the continued shelling.

Junblatt Remarks — The PSP will not stop fighting until President Amin al-Jumayyil's government resigns because its continuation in office means the "complete destruction" of Lebanon, PSP leader Walid Junblatt stated in remarks reported by the Amman paper *AR-RA'Y*. While the paper viewed this as a call for Al-Jumayyil to resign, Junblatt subsequently told Radio Monte Carlo that he had not called for the president's resignation but was criticizing the president's policy and government.

Israel

The Cabinet approved with only minor amendments cuts in the state budget proposed by the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs, Jerusalem radio reported. Defense Ministry sources cited by Jerusalem television said the 13 percent cut in the defense budget will reduce military expenditure by $650 million. Although Defense Minister Moshe Arens had earlier opposed the finance minister's demands, the television said, the Cabinet decision was unanimous "at Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's insistence."

Morocco

A Madrid radio reporter and an AFP correspondent were expelled from Morocco on 21 January in an effort "to block foreign journalists from finding out the number of people killed" in recent rioting against price rises, AFP reported. The figure of 25 dead "seems to be confirmed," Madrid radio noted, although "unofficial Moroccan sources" put the number as high as 50.

Meanwhile, in a speech to the nation on 22 January, reported by AFP, King Hassan said he has decided to rescind the food price rises ordered on 1 January. He also blamed Iran, "Marxist-Leninists," and "Zionist intelligence services" for the recent rioting, charging that the riots were designed to make last week's Islamic summit in Casablanca fail. Hassan did not provide any casualty figures but said he has ordered "severe" action against any new violence.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraqi warplanes raided Iranian positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector on 21 and 22 January, scoring direct hits, Iraq announced in military communiques carried by INA and Baghdad radio. Although the communiques stated that all Iraqi aircraft returned safely to base, an Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio charged that an Iraqi plane was shot down over the northern sector on 21 January. Iran also reported heavy artillery exchanges in several sectors while Iraq said its artillery pounded engineering equipment east of Basra, according to the communiques. An earlier communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed that Iranian forces repulsed an Iraqi commando attack in the Panjwin sector.

Meanwhile, in a speech to Iranian combatants reported by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani declared Iran's intention to close down Iraq's northern oil pipeline. The commander of the Iranian Ground Forces, in remarks reported by the radio's Arabic service, affirmed that Iran will teach its opponents a lesson they will never forget by "resuming the battles" on the warfronts.

Iran

At the conclusion of the trial of 101 members of the underground military network of the Tudeh, Iran's communist party, six people were sentenced to life imprisonment while most of the others received prison terms of varying durations, the president of the military revolution court disclosed in an interview with Tehran radio. Verdicts for the 13 found guilty of the most serious charges will be announced after confirmation by the Supreme Judicial Council, he noted. Around 200 civilian members of the Tudeh's underground organization will be tried by the revolution prosecutor's office, he announced, and about 30 activists from the majority wing of the Feda'i-ye Khalq will also face trial when their dossiers are completed.

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Further Reportage on Casablanca ICO Summit

Charter Adopted

LD201650 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Jan 84

["Text" of the Casablanca charter unanimously adopted by the fourth Islamic summit conference]

[Text] Thanks be to God. The kings, presidents, and representatives of the countries and governments belonging to the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] meeting at Casablanca in the Kingdom of Morocco in January 1984 thank God for enabling them to hold this conference to discuss the various issues of interest to them and to the leaders of the various countries of the world. They also thank God for giving them the opportunity to hold consultations and exchange views on the plans to be drawn up, stands to be formulated, and courses to be taken in the present state of affairs. Furthermore, they thank Him for supporting their steps and crowning the efforts they have exerted in an atmosphere of fraternity and harmony with comprehensive agreement and unanimity on the right course.

The kings, presidents, and representatives of the countries and governments now meeting pray to God following the conclusion of their conference and appeal to Him to provide the Islamic nation with all the means for a happy bright present and a glittering prosperous future. With a spirit of optimism and out of their conviction that God will reward those who do good, they declare their commitment to the objectives, principles, and means embodied in the following charter:

Out of their realization that the Islamic world has long been passing through a difficult and hard period in which difficulties and challenges have followed each other with no indication as to whether they would lessen or continue, or last for a short or long time; out of their belief that what they are facing as a result of this state of affairs demands a serious upsurge and sure determination and a firm and persistent but also enlighted confrontation; out of their conviction that this phase, which is unrelenting, demands constant vigilance and political awareness in which objectives, goals, means, and methods manifest themselves in a clear and well-defined way; out of their feeling that the role the Islamic nation must undertake for the good of its peoples and mankind as a whole demands that the Islamic arena be free of all the things that would deplete energies and impede theie wills from achieving the sublime ambitions and ideals; out of their feeling also that secondary problems and marginal issues could force the conditions of the Islamic nation into the worst consequences if they were permitted to continue in a manner that would cause blindness to essential matters and preoccupation with outward things; in view of the present stage which is fraught with dangers and in view of the demands and dictates it imposes and also in view of all the above, the tasks entrusted to the Islamic world consist of private and public tasks that shou'd follow two axes and exist in two arenas so as to be able to reconcile the interests of the Islamic nation with international interests.

Out of their acceptance that private work in the Islamic society and constant work in the arena of the international community cannot be carried out in the desired perfect manner unless started from a firm solid base and a strong cornerstone; out of their conviction that the best source they could revert to and the most sound and most correct source they can rely upon are what the Koran has provided and what the prophet's teachings have specified, namely orders, prohibitions, guidance, direction, principles, and values pertaining to the safeguarding of Islamic unity and saving it from division and fragmentation, the consolidation of steps on the right course, the praising of harmony, fraternity, cooperation, determination, security, and peace, the sacrifice of money and blood and also God's words — and He is the wisest of judges — such as "cling you all to the course of God and do not divide," and his saying "the Muslims are brothers, and so seek the conciliation of your brothers and fear God so that He may show mercy on you," and His saying "let there be among you some who would call for the doing of good and the shunning of evil, for these would be the successful ones," and His saying "cooperate for good and piety and do not cooperate in evil and aggression," and statements by the Great Prophet Muhammad, may God pray for his soul, such as "none of you can become one of the faithful until he wishes for his brother what he wishes for himself," and his saying "a Muslim is a person who does not harm Muslims either by his hands or his tongue," and his saying "Muslims are prohibited from seizing the blood, money, and honor of other Muslims"; out of their conviction that their ambitions and objectives in the establishment of solidarity and a solid Islamic unity, the creation of the means for a social and economic development capable of spreading prosperity and facilitating the road to development and progress, the attainment of the necessary moral and material power, the winning of trust and credibility before the world countries, the defense of the Islamic faith, the liberation of the Islamic holy places and Arab territories from occupation and colonization, the preservation of Arab and Islamic cultural identity and personality, and the playing of an important and effective role in the international arena — all of which are matters that could free the Islamic arena from all impeding and obstructing factors — cause the shrinking of the causes of division and conflict and let harmony, fraternity, cooperation, peace, and reassurance prevail over the homelands of the Islamic nation; out of the above-mentioned Islamic principles, ethics, and values and the inevitable and vital things that have been enumerated above; out of care for insuring the freedom of the Islamic atmospheres from all stains and filth, the protection of the blood and property of the Muslims, the preference for peaceful methods and pure Islamic means in tackling any differences and conflicts that may arise among Muslim countries;

The kings, presidents, and representatives of the countries and governments that are ICO members declare their unanimous agreement on entrusting to regional reconciliation and concord committees consisting of representatives of Islamic countries the task of settling differences and conflicts. In order to insure the objective and unibased work of these regional committees of reconciliation and concord, they declare their agreement that the region assigned to each committee of reconciliation and concord shall be one to which its members do not belong.

In accordance with this agreement, they have thus divided the Islamic world in geographical terms, defining the areas and appointing members of the regional committees of reconciliation and concord. They have also specified the areas that fall within

the jurisdiction of each committee and organized the work of the various committees in accordance with the annex appended to this charter.

The kings, presidents, and representatives of the countries and governments that are ICO members, while affirming their continued commitment to the resolutions they agreed upon at the past summit conference, particularly the third Islamic summit held in Saudi Arabia, declare that the following objectives are in the forefront of their concern and grant them first place in their list of priorities:

To consolidate the ties of solidarity and bolster cooperation among themselves;

To settle differences through reconciliation as specified above while defending the Islamic faith, and facing up to attempts to attack it, with all possible means of confrontation;

To continue the struggle for the liberation of Jerusalem;

To continue the struggle for the liberation of the occupied Arab and Islamic territory;

To continue support for the Palestinian struggle with a view to insuring the retrieval by the Palestinian people of their national rights — including their right to return, self-determination, and the establishment of their state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative;

To continue efforts for the attainment of growth and prosperity and the acquirement of the necessary material and moral power;

To continue the quest for expanding the horizons of knowledge and the acquirement of technology;

To work for insuring that the Islamic world with its material and moral power and human capabilities will act as a balancing tool in the world.

The kings, presidents, and representatives of the countries and governments that are ICO members reaffirm their commitment to international charters, their clinging to peace and justice, and their ambition to see security prevail and reassurance spread throughout the world.

They urge all Muslims, wherever they are, to continue to work guided by the light of Islam, clinging to the course of God, loyal to the mission of the great prophet, and deserving what God had said about them: You have been the best nation given to mankind, calling for good, shunning evil, and believing in God. Verily God has spokenthe truth.

Jerusalem Committee Report

LD202323 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] It is worth mentioning that the fourth Islamic summit decided to reelect his majesty King Hassan II as chairman of the Jerusalem Committee for a further period of 3 years. It also hailed the report his majesty the king submitted to the conference about the activity of the Jerusalem Committee.

His majesty began this report by expressing his pride in being entrusted with the chairmanship of the commitee, pointing out that the road is still long and difficult and requires much patience, endurance, and efforts for the liberation of Jerusalem and the restoration of its cultural character.

His majesty pointed out that since the third summit, the Jerusalem Committee continued to meet its great responsibilities with all the resources and power at its disposal under very grave conditions, on all local, regional, and international levels. Under such conditions, the committee held five sessions after the third Islamic summit conference.

In his report, his majesty the king spoke about the activities of the Jerusalem Committee. He said that on the level of confrontation to the repeated Israeli transgressions and measures, notes and reports were sent to member states so that they would condemn the Israeli transgressions on the Islamic and Christian holy places in Jerusalem, Hebron, Bethlehem, and throughout the occupied Palestinian territories. The countries of the world were contacted to condemn the transgressions, the confiscation of land, and the establishment of settlements.

On the political level, his majesty the king pointed out in his report the keenness of the Jerusalem Committee to stress the call for solidarity with the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle and to turn to the international community, the UN General Assembly, the Security Council, the Nonaligned Movement, the OAU, and the Vatican; and to get in direct contact with the EEC and the United States with the aim to prompt the United States to end the military, economic, and political backing for Israel and to work for changing its stances by recognizing the right to self-determination for the Palestinian people.

His majesty the king pointed to the success of the committee in securing a resolution from the Security Council not to recognize the Israeli measures and it called on the member states that have diplomatic mission in Jerusalem to withdraw these mssions.

In the field of information, his majesty spoke in his report about the active movement of the committee on all the levels and in all directions to expose the Zionist terrorism and its extremist fascism, and to convene three international seminars — in London, Paris, and Washington — to publicize the Palestinian issue and to try to influence the major powers with the aim of recognizing the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people and the need for the participation of the PLO in all the talks and negotiations dealing with the question of peace in the Middle East.

His majesty the king announced the establishment of the Islamic Bureau for the Boycott of Israel, which has begun its work. His majesty also announced the appointment of one of the Pakistani officers to be in charge of the Islamic Bureau for Military Coordination with Palestine so that it can begin to implement its plan.

His majesty called for reviewing the policy of financing the Jerusalem Fund in order to insure a stable annual budget for the fund in the value of $100 million. In his report about the activity of the Jerusalem Committee, his majesty stressed the need for all the member states to issue a Palestine stamp in a permanent manner, as long as the question of Palestine exists in realization of Islamic solidarity with Palestine and Jerusalem. He also pointed to the committee's recommendations connected with the establishment of organizations to collect contributions in support of the Palestinian people's struggle.

His majesty concluded the report of the Jerusalem Committee submitted to the fourth Islamic summit by expressing the hope that everyone will rise to his responsibility toward the peoples of the Islamic nation to resolve their problems and their main issues and to work for supporting the Palestinian cause, particularly the question of holy Jerusalem.

Afghan Mujahidin Leader's Address

BK201211 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has emphasized that the 20-year persective plan for scientific and technological cooperation has been prepared for the benefit of the entire community. Addressing the summit during the course of presentation of the plan, he announced Paksitan's contribution of $1 million to the fund of $25 million required for carrying out the feasibility [as heard] of 20 projects identified in the plan of action and to be executed in the first 5 years of the plan.

The Afghan Mujahidin leader Dr Burhanuddin Rabbani also addressed the summit on behalf of the seven organizations and said the people of Afghanistan were waging a jihad successfully and valiantly to regain their independent, Islamic, and nonaligned character. They had been fighting ferociously in the face of plastic and napalm bomb attacks and would not be cowed down. He said 80 percent of the country's territory has been recovered by them. He said they were fighting the Russians at the behest of no other countries. They were fighting them because the Russians wanted to impose colonialism and communism on the way of life of the Muslims of Afghanistan. He said history was witness to the fact that they had never been subjugated in the past by any power. His speech was received with a loud and long applause.

About the election of the new secretary general of the Islamic Conference, the summit, on the intervention of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, fixed December 1984 when the tenure of the incumbent would expire. The election of the new secretary general will be held at the next Islamic foreign ministers conference to be held in San'a' in North Yemen.

'Arafat Casablanca Speech

JN201900 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1627 GMT 20 Jan 84

["Text" of speech by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at fourth Islamic summit in Casablanca on 19 January 1984 — read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O ye are the best of peoples, evolved for mankind, enjoining what is right, forbidding what is wrong. [Koranic verse]

Brothers, attention is drawn to the PLO in order to express its opinion on this important topic that Brother President Ahmed Sekou Toure, the wise man of Africa, has raised — namely, Egypt's resumption of its membership in our organization. Having followed the views of both the supporters and opponents of Egypt's return to the ICO, I found that all these views stem from one point — namely, support for the Palestine question. The difference in views lies in the method of action and the selection of one or two options: First, the continuation of the present situation that has led to Egypt's removal; second, the sense of honor in Egypt, which we can only strengthen. Therefore, let us work together in order to isolate the Zionist enemy and confront its aggression. I am sure that this rich dialogue, which his majesty the king is handling with his wisdom, will enable us to reach a decision that takes our interests into consideration and conveys to Egypt and its people a message of love and brotherhood.

On this occasion, I will present to you the results of my following what is taking place in Egypt regarding our cause. I am following, just as you do, what President Mubarak is doing regarding the exposure of the Israeli aggression and Egypt's strengthening of its relations with the Arab, Islamic, and nonaligned countries. What has already been done deserves our appreciation. From this place, I extend warm greetings to my brother, President Mubarak, for his assistance during the departure from Tripoli and for his help to our Palestinian people. I am certain that our joint action will lead us to employ all of our potentials to confront the Zionist aggression.

Your Majesty the Chairman, brother kings and heads of state: You have the right to allow me to put you in the picture about my recent meeting with my brother, President Mubarak, and to explain the circumstances of this meeting. This meeting followed the departure from Tripoli, a departure that was accompanied by Israeli aggression from both the air and the sea. On that day, we made efforts to ensure that the UN flag would be hoisted, an action in which you played an important role. I also made contacts with a number of European countries. However, the means of protection were not made available. Accordingly, I contacted Egypt in order to ensure this protection — in an attempt to have the Arab nation contribute to this end, lest Europe monopolize it. Egypt responded to my efforts, and its air and naval forces participated in the evacuation in both the

Mediterranean and Red Sea. This action by Egypt was the first military action to confront the Israeli military challenge. This action introduced a new reality that took place for the first time since As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, and constituted a penetration of the Camp David accords. My meeting with Brother President Mubarak has strengthened our efforts for the Palestine question's victory.

Brothers, since I have taken the rostrum to address you, may His Majesty the King permit me for a short while to make Palestine's address before this conference. We are gathered today in this blessed country, of whose people we are proud and on whose land we are glad to hold our conference. I extend greetings of love and appreciation to brother Morocco, and to all brothers and members of this conference. I also extend my people's appreciation for all that you are extending to the Palestine question.

We meet today, 3 years after our meeting in At-Ta'if. These 3 years have witnessed major events, during which we were subjected to continued and escalated Israeli aggression. Israel raided Beirut in 1981, during the month of Ramadan, and waged aggression against southern Lebanon. At that time, our people and the Lebanese people stood fast against the aggression. In 1982, Israel invaded Lebanon. Our people and the Lebanese people proved their steadfastness in the manner that you witnessed. In 1983, Israel besieged Tripoli and attacked it from the air and the sea amid the difficult circumstances, which you know well and on which I do not want to elaborate.

We confronted the Israeli aggression, and we will continue to confront it. We pledge to you that we will continue the struggle until the homeland is liberated. Jihad dictates that we cooperate together and adopt a unified stand. That's why our present conference is important. We must adopt resolutions that will enable us to confront the Israeli aggression, which poses a threat not only to us but also to Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, the Arab homeland, and the Islamic world. In order to achieve this, we must overcome and eliminate all the differences that exist among us.

From this rostrum, I tell you on behalf of Palestine and the PLO that we want this cooperation. I extend my hand to all my brothers, particularly to those who believe that we are at loggerheads with them. As one of our Arab poets has said, the relationship between me and my brother does not differ from the one with my cousin. If they gnaw at my flesh, I will not harm their flesh. If they demolish my house, I will build a new house. We have to confront the aggression and to accept the consequences of jihad if we want to attain our objectives and liberate Jerusalem.

Brothers, from this premise comes the importance of this conference in this hospitable country, with its militant people and under the auspices of His Majesty King Hassan II, and also in view of the momentous responsibilities that we must assume. I ask Almighty God to guide and protect us so that we can meet the challenges, and to help us in settling our differences. From my position, I extend my hands in order to close ranks and confront our enemies, the conspiracy of sectarian partitioning, and the balkanization of the region; and in order to unite the stand of the Arab and Islamic world for the sake of Palestine, where we hope that the Arab and Muslim leaders will pray in its Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The real crisis through which our Islamic nation is passing is the absence of solidarity and unity. This is the basic rule that we must restore. Without it, our nation cannot face the challenges of civilization that are confronting us at the level of our political, military, and economic strength. We in the Palestinian revolution are well aware of this reality and of the basic requirements for the fateful battle and the confrontation of all challenges. That's why in the wake of the departure from Tripoli we in the Palestinian revolution have moved on all levels, in spite of our bleeding wounds. We will continue with this activity on the Arab and Islamic level with the purpose of creating the suitable circumstances to confront these challenges, proceeding from our deep faith in the importance of restoring Arab and Islamic solidarity. We believe that this is the principal task with which this conference must deal. This conference must create the circumstances for confrontation.

The onslaught against the Islamic and Arab nation is exacerbating, while the impotence in confronting this onslaught is increasing. We are dutybound to remedy this increasing impotence on the basis of our religious, Islamic, and national responsibilities. We must immediately desist from squandering our Islamic and Arab efforts in peripheral battles that only serve the real enemies. We must stop confusing friend and foe, because the danger against us is very clear, particularly in the absence of controls. This allows the United States and the Israelis and their joint strategic agreement, which returns the entire region to the era of the princelings, to establish a bitter reality on our land as a prelude to the balkanization of the entire region.

Brethren, the new stage the Palestinian revolution is facing after the departure from Tripoli will be a stage of persevering, of creative work and activity on all levels and in all fields, so that we can continue to get closer to our aim of liberating Palestine and Jerusalem. The popular and armed struggle in our occupied territory will be escalated. We will not surrender to the plot that is trying to drive us away from the contact line. The political and diplomatic struggle will proceed with impetus and strength toward our land, Palestine. We will transform this new dispersal into factors of strength, thus foiling the enemies' aims. The liquidatory plans, which disregard our people's rights and ignore our national aspirations -- including the Reagan plan and the autonomy plan -- shall not pass. We will also bolster our relations with all the Arab and Islamic forces, and with the nonaligned and friendly states.

Mr Chairman, brother kings and presidents, the Palestinian people's victory is destined to always come from the midst of debris. After a march of pain and sacrifices, we managed to score an important political victory for our people. This was represented in the recognition of the Palestinian national identity and in the recognition of the PLO, leader of its struggle, as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. These two accomplishments constitute a beginning for both the legal and political recognition of these people's right to a free, independent homeland. The Fes summit resolutions were an Arab step that represented a cornerstone in the stage of establishing a Palestinian homeland on the land of Palestine.

In the last 16 months, since the approval of this Arab peace plan, we laid down the first mechanism of this plan — it is the Arab mechanism of forming the seven-member committee. We then provided this plan with its second mechanism — it is the mechanism of the nonaligned summit in New Delhi, which approved and supported the plan. This was the step that took place with the formation of the seven-member committee. After this plan has gained the support of the socialist countries, we should provide the Arab peace plan with its third mechanism — the Islamic mechanism — so that we can present this plan, with all the support it enjoys, to the European and Western arena in general, and to Canada, Australia, and Latin America in particular. Let the year 1984 be the year in which we pool efforts to obtain further gains — particularly after Western Europe has generally departed from the U.S. stand that is completely hostile to progress toward peace — so that our people can preserve their existence and achieve their legitimate and internationally recognized aims, headed by all people's sacred right to self-determination.

An important role is awaiting Europe in the Middle East, and we believe that Europe must take the initiative in order to play this historic role, particularly since France under President Mitterrand is the chairman of the European group for the next 6 months. This helps us to work with them in order to establish a just and lasting peace in the region, and to restore our just rights as recognized by international legitimacy in cooperation with all our friends in the nonaligned, African, socialist, and friendly states. We are ready to look into a European political mechanism that guarantees a new potential for the Fes resolution, which is the just basis the Arab summit proposed for a just and lasting solution to the Middle East issue in cooperation with our friends and allies in the world.

Today you are all aware of the fact that we were right when we doubted the United States' ability and desire to act last year. What Lebanon and its towns and Palestinian camps witnessed, in addition to the massacres committed there and what happened inside our occupied territory, are evidence of what we say on the continuation of this firm U.S. line that is hostile to our national rights as approved by international legitimacy.

Through the Reagan plan, the Americans tried to impose the issue of unity with Jordan as a precondition to any move. They thought that by doing this they would stir up a Jordanian-Palestinian struggle, after which they would be absolved of their political, moral, and international responsibilities and would preserve their main alliance with Israel against the states of the region. However, we announced through our PNC that there is a historical relationship tying the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples — hence, our decision to establish a confederation between Jordan and liberated Palestine. As I greet the positions of the friendly states — which stand at the side of right and justice as well as at the side of our people so that they can have their own homeland and state, as well as a national flag hoisted over their free independent soil — I announce before you that the United States must resort to reason in this region. We are stronger than they think, and we will not yield to pressures in our region.

Brothers Muslim kings and leaders, we must remember that the primary noble reason behind establishing the Islamic Conference was to liberate Jerusalem. Let us prepare for this holy battle. Therefore, I appeal to you, your majesties and excellencies, to concentrate our efforts and actions on finding the most successful methods to serve this great objective of liberating holy Jerusalem. Glory to God, who did take His servant for a journey by night from the sacred mosque to the farthest mosque, whose precincts we did bless — in order that we might show Him some of our signs: For He is the one who heareth and seeth all things. [Koran verse]

Brothers Muslim kings and leaders, in concluding my speech I have to offer heartfelt thanks in the name of our mujahidin and people to our brothers in the Arab countries who hosted their brother Palestinian mujahidin. We thank the northern and southern parts of Yemen, Algeria, Iraq, Sudan, Tunisia, Egypt, and Jordan for temporarily hosting the revolutionary groups that are marching on the road to Palestine. I also thank the brothers in Saudi Arabia, and its leader His Majesty King Fahd, for the efforts they exerted for a cease-fire in northern Lebanon. We thank all the brothers and friends who contributed to these efforts. I also express thanks to all the fraternal and friendly states that offered guarantees and protection during our forces' evacuation from Tripoli. We thank the United Nations, which offered its flag for this purpose.

Finally, I repeat my heartfelt thanks to the Moroccan people and their king, His Majesty King Hassan II, for hosting this conferece and for exerting great efforts to ensure its success. Thank you. Revolution until victory!

King Hassan Press Conference

LD202318 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1920 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Press conference by King Hassan of Morocco on 20 January in Casablanca with foreign and domestic reporters — live]

[Excerpts] Ladies and Gentlemen, as you know, it is a tradition after every summit conference that the head of state of the host country holds a press conference in order to point out, in the interest of the international press, the main points, orientations, and motivations of the Islamic Conference. I must also make a concise report about its proceedings. I'll try, in as much as it is not a violation of closed meeting secrets, although I personally have no illusions — I'm almost certain that what was meant to be secret has already been given away, or will be given away — but as far as I'm concerned, I'm not going to be guilty in this respect. I am at your disposal.

[Unidentified journalist] It is a two-part question. The first part is: Is the continuation of the Islamic good offices committee's efforts all that the conference could decide concerning the Iraqi-Iranian war? Second part: If Egypt's return to the fold of the Islamic Conference is confirmed, will this mean its automatic return to the Arab League fold? Thank you, Your Majesty.

[King Hassan] There is no doubt that the issue of the Iraqi-Iranian war took a long time. Everyone spoke about it with

bitterness, with deep and sincere regret for what is happening between two Islamic states and what these two states are bearing in bloodshed and loss of men and money. On the other hand, Iran's absence from the conference no doubt will not win it any new gains.Quite the contrary, it has in my opinion lost even its friends.

As far as the good offices committee is concerned, we have not put an end to the mission of President Sekou Toure regarding good offices and peace between Iraq and Iran.

As for Egypt and the assumption that its return to the ICOwill ensure its return to the Arab League, well, we must differentiate between the former and the latter. The ICO is an organization with its own rules and commitment clauses. The Arab League is something else: It is a purely Arab league. The former one is Islamic, including therefore all Muslims, and its task is concentrated more on religious, social, and cultural issues than on political ones. This did not prevent the ICO from dealing with political issues. So, the return of Egypt to the ICO does not necessarily lead implicitly or in a legal manner to the Arab League, unless the Arab League members deem it appropriate that Egypt should return to the Arab League fold. But we must differentiate between the ICO and the Arab League.

[Reporter name indistinct] The formulation of the invitation to Egypt prompts me to pose the following question: First, Egypt was one of the founder states, and one of those who laid down the principles and rules of the ICO . Second, the point at issue is the resolutions: Egypt signed the Camp David agreements, and there are now (?contacts) in the Middle East between Palestinians and Jordanians. Do you believe that (?the time element) which is (?implied) in the resolution concerning Egypt will help it return to the ICO fold? Thank you.

[King Hassan] Egypt's return, quickly or slowly, depends on Egypt, because a committee has been formed comprising three states. It is headed by His Excellency President Ahmed Sekou Toure, and includes Pakistan and Iraq in the persons of their respective foreign ministers, and the secretary general of the Islamic Conference. This committee will be going to Egypt for talks with Egyptian officials, particularly President Husni Mubarak, to see whether the ICO resolutions and the intentions of Egypt concerning their implementation and observation agree. So, Egypt's return to the Islamic world, to the ICO, depends on the will of Egypt.

Husayn Salameh from the Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS*: Your Majesty, it transpires from the proceedings of the fourth Islamic summit that controversy concerning Egypt's return to the ICOwas confined to certain Arab states on one hand and some non-Arab African and Asian states on the other hand. [words indistinct] was in order to prevent the widening of the gap between the Arab states in their differences?

[King Hassan] There were indeed differences between some Arab states and all, or rather most, African states and all Asian states. The differences were due to the fact that the Arab states had commitments in the framework of the Arab League, whereas the African and Asian states had no commitments to the Arab league. No doubt this created some misunderstanding, and the ICO hopes that clouds will go and clarity will prevail, together with an understanding of the position of others.

[Name indistinct] from French Television Channel TF-1: Your Majesty, can you tell us whether, from your point of view and those of a number of other Arab heads of state, it is now time to reinstate Egypt in the Arab League?

[King Hassan, in French] It is not a matter of opportunity, it is a matter of fact. Egypt was expelled from the Arab League because grievances were made against it. For Egypt to be reinstated, either the heads of state who are members of the Arab League must consider that that these grievances and these sanctions no longer have any basis, or Egypt must eliminate the reasons that brought about its expulsion and then return, by a sort of redemption, to its place in the Arab League.

[Reporter name indistinct] from the paper *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* of Cairo: Your Majesty, can one consider the mission of the committee provided for by the ICO summit resolution to go to Cairo as a kind of condition for the return of Egypt?

[King Hassan] (?The word condition is inappropriate). The committee will discuss with Egypt the circumstances suiting Egypt on one hand, and the ICO on the other, so that Egypt may join the ICO.

Eric Rouleau from *LE MONDE*: Sir, the delegation due to go to Cairo will ask Egypt — if I have understood the resolution taken by the summit — to commit itself to carrying out all the ICO resolutions. Now, when one examines these resolutions one finds that they condemn, without appeal, the Camp David agreements, and urge member countries to boycott Israel on one hand, and to support the PLO militarily on the other. In brief, they are provisions that go against the peace treaty signed between Egypt and Israel. In these conditions, do you believe that a compromise can be found between these resolutions and the commitment taken by Egypt with regard to Israel?

[King Hassan, in French] In general, it is up to the committee and to Egypt when they meet, to see to what extent there can be conciliation between stances which at the first glance seem to be irreconcilable. Second, if one refers to the attitude of President Mubarak, wh- I met in New York at the UN General Assembly, one can say that as far as Egypt is concerned Camp David is dead in the sense that it has given up its fruit: Egypt has recovered its occupied territories, its oil, and from this fact Camp David has lost its substance. The treaty [words indistinct], it is obviously to tear up treaties otherwise we would return to certain theories that had led to the two world wars. However, when one goes into politics one deals with facts, not appearances. The Egyptian president said, and I quote him: Camp David, he told me, still lives only in the minds of the Arabs. For us in Egypt it [words indistinct] because Egypt has received what it wanted thanks to Camp David. At any rate, the committee will submit a report to the chairman of the fourth summit who, in turn, will report [words indistinct] to draw the conclusion. He will report to his colleagues, and I think if suggestions are interesting and positive I would not rule out an extraordinary meeting in order to ratify it, if the (?report) is positive.

[Name indistinct] from Radio France Internationale: Your Majesty, can one consider, or rather what is, in your view, of the scale of the conflict in the Western Sahara?

[King Hassan in French] What?

[Same journalist] What is, in your view, the conflict in the Western Sahara? Is it a domestic conflict, a bilateral conflict, a trilateral conflict? Was it discussed in the framework of the conference with a view to resolving it peacefully in the context of the ICO?

[King Hassan] The conflict... [journalist interrupts]

[Same journalist] ... Of the Western Sahara.

[King Hassan] [Words indistinct] The ways and means of settling this problem have been set forth in Nairobi and [words indistinct].

[Name indistinct] from the magazine *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI*: After the adoption of the Arab peace plan by the Islamic summit, do you expect a change in the American position to this plan? In other words, is conciliation between the Fahd plan and the Reagan plan possible?

[King Hassan] I'm going to answer this question not as a head of state but as a quite old man who has been through events, who lived policies and especially lived the battle of independence since he was young. No doubt the bridge, if there is a bridge, between the American plan and the Fahd plan (?consists, among other things,) of Egypt's joining the Islamic Conference [words indistinct].

[Unidentified journalist] Moroccan-Algerian relations saw progress recently, then these relations became lukewarm. Would Your Majesty explain the causes of this change?

[King Hassan] I have already said that this press conference concerns Islamic affairs. Yes, you can say that Moroccan-Islamic [as heard] relations come within Islamic concord and harmony, and I tell you yes, from this point of view you are right. As far as I am personally concerned — and I am said to have an excellent memory — I cannot find, since February last year to this day, anything to indicate that Algeria and Morocco have met obstacles on the way to rapprochement. But, as I say, I am an optimistic man. I have always been optimistic and I will remain optimistic.

Further Details

OW210104 Hong Kong AFP in English 0057 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Casablanca, Morocco, Jan 20 (AFP) — President Husni Mubarak of Egypt believes the Camp David accord is "dead," because his country has obtained all it wanted from the 1979 U.S.-sponsored peace treaty, King Hassan II of Morocco said here today. "It got its occupied lands back, it got its oil back," King Hassan told newsmen at a press conference at the royal palace marking the end yesterday of the fourth summit of the ICO, from which Egypt was expelled because of the Camp David treaty it signed with Israel. Egypt was invited by the summit yesterday to "resume its membership in the ICO."

King Hassan quoted Mr Mubarak as having told him in a recent conversation in New York that "Camp David lives on only in the minds of the Arabs."

"For us, in Egypt, it is now devoid of all meaning, because Egypt has obtained from Camp David what it wanted," Mr Mubarak told the king. King Hassan commented: "Formally, the treaty still exists because it is, after all, difficult to tear up treaties... Still, when one indulges in politics, one does not see only the form, but the substance," he said.

The king implied, however, that Egypt's return to the ICO was not over and done with despite the ICO resolution taken after yesterday's stormy final session, when the heads of the Libyan and Syrian delegations walked out of the meeting in protest. Asked if there were any conditions for Egypt's return, the king carefully replied: "The term 'conditions' was not used." He went on to explain that it was now "a matter of dialogue" between Egypt and the four-man ICO committee that will go to Cairo to receive Egypt's assurances that it will "abide by the principles, rules and decisions" of the ICO.

Ziaul Haq on ICO Summit

LD221459 Riyadh SPA in English 1243 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Al-Madinah, Jan 22, SPA — Pakistani President Mohamed Ziaul Haq left here today for home after a two-day visit to the kingdom during which he performed the Umra (minor pilgrimage) and visited the prophet's mosque in al-Madinah. In a statement prior to his departure to the Saudi Press Agency President Zia hailed King Fahd's constructive efforts to achieve Islamic solidarity.

He said the success of the fourth Islamic summit in Casablanca was due to efforts exerted by the Saudi monarch in his capacity as chairman of the third Islamic summit held in at-Ta'if in January 1981, and King Hassan of Morocco.

The Pakistani president described the summit's resolutions as a victory for the Islamic nation.

Concerning the four-year Iran-Iraq war, President Zia expressed hope the effotts of the Islamic Good Offices Committee would culminate into stopping bloodshed between the two Muslim countries. Commenting on Egypt's readmission to the ICO, President Zia said it was the most important resolution taken by the summit.

Reviewing Pakistani - Saudi Relations President Zia described them as a "model".

Speaking about the Afghanistan problem the Pakistani head of state said his country was giving refuge to three million Afghani people displaced by the Soviet occupation of their country.

"Despite the passing of four years since the Afghan mass exodus yet Pakstan has encountered no difficulty or problem in feeding

such a big number of refugees thanks to the assistance of Islamic countries and Saudi Arabic and the U.S. in particular." Zia said.

He said Pakistan was spending one million U.S. dollars daily on Afghan refugees equally paid by Islamic countries and the U.N. on one hand and Pakistan on the other.

He ruled out any military solution to the Afghani problem.

Fahd, 'Arafat Activities in Casablanca
LD202136 Riyadh SPA in English 1900 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Casablanca, Jan. 20, SPA — HM King Fahd of Saudi Arabia received at his residence here today north Yemen president 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and accompanying delegation. President Salih and delegation have dined with the Saudi monarch.

Later today the Saudi Monarch received Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasir 'Arafat and accompanying delegation.

Meanwhile Palestine News Agency (WAFA) said 'Arafat met earlier today with Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi who led his country delegation at the fourth Islamic Summit conference which concluded its sessions in this city on the Morocco's Atlantic Ocean. The agency said the meeting discussed situations in Arab and Palestinian Arenas. It said the meeting would be followed by intensive Palestinian-Algerian meetings, at a date to be fixed later, in the Algerian capital.

Meanwhile King Fahd, in a statement here today, on the occasion of the winding up of the four-day islamic summit, said the summit had discussed the most important issues related to the future of the Islamic nation. King Fahd said the political issues as usual had received more attention from the summit and despite their difficult nature yet the participants had shown strong and sincere desire to reach and agreement on view of the interests the Islamic nation.

"As for the Palestinian and Lebanese issues there have been full agreement on the need of Isrraeli withdrawal from all occupied arab land including holy Jerusalem, King Fahd said. "There have been also full agreement on the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people including their right to self determination and to establish an independent state on their own soil under the leadership of PLO, their sole legitimate representative," the Saudi monarch added.

Regarding the four-year old Iran-Iraq war, King Fahd said a feeling of pain and regret had prevailed during the summit deliberations because of the continuation of war between the two Islamic brotherly states and for the exhaustion of their human and material potentialities and energies on one hand and the undermining of the stability and security of the region on the other hand. The Saudi monarch said there was a full conviction that the two countries should commit themselves to Islamic principles which confirm that all Moslems are brothers and call for the sparing of Moslems blood, unity and solidarity.

King Fahd expressed his satisfaction with Iraq's renewed desire to put an end to fighting with Iran and its continued cooperation with the efforts undertaken by the Islamic good-offices mission.

Referring to the situation in Afghanistan King Fahd said the summit had stressed the importance of Soviet troops withdrawal from Afghan territory to enable the Afghan people to decide their fate freely and to select the regime they like.

"Aside from political issues the summit have also discussed economic issues and economic cooperation between ICO members," Hing Fahd said.

'Arafat Meets King Hassan, Returns to Tunis
LD221850 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Tunis 22 Jan (MAP) — Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, returned to Tunisia after presiding over the PLO delegation to the fourth Islamic summit in Casa blanca. The Palestinian leader talked with His Majesty King Hassan II Friday evening. During their talk,they assessed the results of the Islamic summit and the follow-up of the implementation of its resolutions. They also reviewed the latest developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas and examined preparations for convening the coming Arab summit, which will be held this March in Saudi Arabia.

PLO Denies Connection With Libyan Envoy Attack
NC221408 Paris AFP in English 1347 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Rome, Jan 22 (AFP) — An unknown group called "al-Burkan", Arabic for "the volcano," today claimed the shooting of the ranking Libyan diplomat here, who remained in a coma today with a bullet lodged in his brain.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS, a private American news agency, said its London bureau had received a telephone call from a person claiming to represent that group. The caller said al-Burkan had carried out yesterday's attack on 'Ammar Mukhtar Taggaz, 43, the leader of the Libyan People's Bureau, or embassy, the AP said. The caller gave no reason for the attack, nor any clue that would permit the group's identification. Experts in Rome, meanwhile, said they had not heard of the group.

Meanwhile, in Tunis, the Palestine Liberation Organization denied any connection with the shootings. In a statement carried by the Palestinian news agency WAFA, a spokesman said: "The PLO has no relationship... with this attack. It has never resorted to these terrorist methods, which it condemns."

BAHRAIN

Joint Air Exercises Held With Qatar

GF210632 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0535 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Manama, 21 Jan (WAKH) — The Bahraini newspaper *AL-ADWA' reported today that a number of Bahrain Defense* Force [BDF] planes joined with Qatari aircraft in joint air exercises which were carried out in the State of Qatar recently. The newspaper reported that these exercises were held in connection with the GCC's recomendations to deepen and consolidate joint military cooperation among the GCC states.

Amir Returns From Casablanca Summit Meeting

GF211806 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1750 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 21 Jan (WAKH) — Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah returned home from Morocco this evening after heading his country's delegation to the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference which concluded in Casablanca last Thursday.

In a statement made upon his return, the amir of Bahrain praised the spirit of brotherhood, solidarity, and frankness which dominated the summit's meetings — in spite of the existence of different viewpoints — which facilitated the adoption of vital and important resolutions.

KUWAIT

Amir Comments on Islamic Summit Conference

LD211942 Kuwait KUNA in English 1633 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 21 (KUNA) — H.H. the Amir said Saturday that meetings of the fourth Islamic summit in Casablanca were held in an atmosphere of Islamic brotherhood and a keen desire to understand each other.

In a statement upon arrival from Casablanca this evening, where he attended the summit, H.H. noted that the special efforts exerted by King Hassan II of Morocco helped the conference to a great extent to reach consensus on several issues on its agenda.

He said the recent summit, which concluded meetings late last Thursday, was important because it came at a time when the Moslem world was facing several challenges and problems that had to be tackled to find solutions for them.

The Amir stressed that the one billion Moslems and Moslem countries around the world are bound together by the faith of Islam which became a significant and influential factor at the international level. He said some forces tried to attack Islam with the aim of undermining its importance and influence. H.H. said Moslem solidarity and cooperation will make them a power to reckon with and would enable them to play a positive role in spreading Islam all over the world, and realizing the welfare of humanity.

He said the summit discussed a number of issues important to Islam and Moslems, and showed a concern for their interests,especially the ones that boost their unity and solidarity.

H.H. said Kuwait's decision to host the fifth Islamic summit meeting in 1987 stems from the desire of its people to unite and strengthen relations of Moslem nations.

Amir on Explosions, Gulf Security Agreement

LD231021 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0709 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Jan (KUNA) — The Amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, stated today that the recent treacherous explosion incidents have helped to show the mettle of the Kuwaiti people. He said: With all loyalty and commitment, we belong to Kuwait and Kuwait belongs to us. We are a nation with firm, deep roots and a tree with good fruit."

The amir was speaking at a comprehensive interview he gave to the chairman of the board of directors and director general of KUNA, and chief editors of the Kuwaiti papers while en route home from Morocco after attending the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference at Casablanca. The interview lasted an hour.

The amir said: "We do not fear threats, and I do not care about propaganda attacks as long as I act with a free conscience." He stated: "Kuwait will not bow to threats made to secure the release of the accused in the cases of the treacherous bombing incidents, incidents which have shown the mettle of the Kuwaitis and their ability to withstand shock."

The amir added: "What has happened could happen again. But it will fail, thanks to the alertness and cooperation of the people in the responsible departments." He affirmed that the newcomers [al-wafidin] have been loyal, with the exception of a misled clique.

Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad said that "Kuwait objects to one or two articles in the Gulf Security Agreement, and the events that have taken place will do nothing to persuade us to sign it in its present form." He affirmed that "the tension prevailing in the region and the dissatisfaction of many with the atmosphere of freedom that prevails in Kuwait demand from us complete and unrelenting vigilance."

Shaykh Jabir expressed his extreme pleasure at the cooperation shown by the Kuwaiti people during the crisis, saying that "the people have shown their nobility. They have cooperated with the Armed Forces and the security officials." "I feel," he added, "that all the people have rushed with zeal and a sense of patriotism to do anything asked of them. They genuinely serve their country."

"The lesson we have learned from these incidents is that as a government and people we must remain on the alert and be cautious. I do not want to see any relaxation of this alertness in the presently tense atmosphere, in which there is a great deal of dissatisfaction with the freedom our country enjoys," he added.

Asked about the reasons behind the propaganda being launched against him personally by some of the information media in the region, he said: "These campaigns do not bother me much, for I act in accordance with the dictates of my conscience and in the national interests of my homeland. As long as I am satisfied with my actions, I do not care about the attacks."

Shaykh Jabir affirmed that justice will take its course against the culprits in the case of the criminal explosions — unaffected by threats — and that he will approve any decisions the state Security Court takes against the accused. He affirmed that the incidents will not change Kuwait's attitude toward the Gulf Security Agreement, pointing out that some of its articles confict with the Kuwaiti laws and constitution. He said that he told his brothers on the GCC that nobody should be forced to accept anything, and that everything must be accepted through conviction. The amir added that the country's political security machinery needs bolstering with modern means.

With regard to the Al-Manakh exchange crisis, the amir said that the solution of the crisis is proceeding well on the right course with no obstacles. Several ideas have been put forward for reviving the economy through the amalgamation of similar companies in addition to some other projects. He intimated that the treasury will shoulder some of the burdens of the Al-Manakh exchange, and that coincides with some reduction in the general income of the state.

The amir affirmed that the building to be set aside for the fifth Islamic summit conference in 1987 will be close to his palace so that he can supervise and follow the work of the conference.

State Security Court To Try Bomb Suspects

GF230838 Doha QNA in Arabic 0808 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 23 Jan (QNA) — The Kuwaiti paper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* today reports that the Kuwaiti State Security Court will announce today the venue for the trial of those accused in the bomb blasts, and that six places in various parts of Kuwait have been mentioned. The paper says that the proposed six venues include schools, and that Justice, Legal, and Administrative Affairs Minister Shaykh 'Ali Sulayman ad-Du'ayj has selected one of the six places.

Citing other sources, *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* says that 23 persons will be tried by the State Security Court, while previously it had been officially announced that there were 21 accused. The paper says that most of the accused are Iraqis, but that they also include Lebanese nationals. The paper adds that the accused include two Kuwaits and that their role in the bomb blasts is insignificant.

Citing the same sources, *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* says that there are still 100 people under detention that have not yet been referred to the prosecutor's office because they are not involved in the case.

It is expected that the charges will be declared by the end of the week, and that the trial of the accused will being early next week.

OMAN

Foreign Minister Leaves for Egypt Visit

GF221534 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, left the country for Cairo this afternoon leading the Sultanate's delegation on a 2-day official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Prior to his departure, his excellency made a statement to the radio correspondent and journalists, in which he said that his visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt comes within the framework of exchanging views and coordinating positions between the two fraternal countries, especially after the fourth Islamic summit conference.

Answering a question on Egypt's return to the Arab League after its return to the ICO, his excellency said: Egypt is a major Arab country, and it should return to the Arab League in the future.

The minister of state for foreign affairs was seen off by Sayf ibn Hamad al-Battati, under secretary of the foreign ministry; the Egyptian ambassador accredited to the Sultanate; and 'Abd al-Hafiz Musalam al-Qalam, assistant director of protocol affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

Information Minister Returns From Egypt Visit

GF211438 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz Muhammad ar-Rawwas and his accompanying delegation returned to the country from Cairo this afternoon following a 4-day official visit to fraternal Egypt.

He made a statement to the radio correspondent in which he said that during his visit to fraternal Arab Egypt he met with President Husni Mubarak, who asked him to convey his greetings to his brother, His Majesty Sultan Qabus, and to the Omani people. His excellency thanked the sultanate for its stand on sister Egypt.

Asked about the sultanate's stand regarding Egypt's return to the Arab and Islamic ranks, he said: "The sultanate's opinion was stated 4 years ago. Egypt is one of the most influential powers in the Arab and Islamic arenas. The stand of his majesty the sultan is a strong fraternal stand toward Egypt. This stand was crystallized by what happened during the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference that was recently held in fraternal Morocco."

He also expressed the sultanate's happiness for Egypt's resumption of its position among its Islamic and Arab sister states, which will give a stronger and more effective thrust to the Arab and Islamic stands in the international arena.

Information Official Departs for Jakarta

GF221146 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Sa'id ibn Nasir al-Qusaybi, under secretary of the Information Ministry, left the country for Indonesia today at the head of the sultanate's delegation to attend the nonaligned countries information ministers' conference to be held in the Indonesian capital of Jakarta from 26-30 January.

PDRY

U.S. Said Increasing Warship Armaments

GF221738 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Jan 84

[From the "News and Reports" program]

[Text] There were reports yesterday that the U.S. Administration decided that more antiaircraft missiles should urgently be sent to U.S. warships off the Lebanese shores and in the Arabian Sea. News agencies reported a Pentagon warning to all ships not to approach the area located above latitude 20 degrees in the Arabian Sea, the Arabian Gulf, the Straits of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman.

The reports said that Pentagon sources refused to clarify the nature of these warnings, but they noted what had been published recently in the U.S. newspaper *WASHINGTON POST* on the Pentagon's intention to send antiaircraft missiles to its warships in the region. Orders were given earlier to the U.S. fleet off the Lebanese shore to attack and shoot down all civilian aircraft which fly over the area where the U.S. fleet is located, regardless of the identification codes carried by these aircraft.

U.S. television networks reported that this decision conflicts with the principles of international law, but the administration gave the orders on the pretext of guaranteeing the security of U.S. warships off Lebanese shores. The U.S. news media laid the grounds for the U.S. decision by stirring up fears of a possible air attack against the U.S. warships.

The information, which was leaked by official sources in Washington, indicated that the United States is trying through the circulation of such propaganda to justify its aggressive actions and to widen its intensive air attacks against the Lebanese nationalist areas. The latest reports today referred to new provocative sorties by U.S. aircraft over Beirut. The news also referred to similar provocative flights by Zionists warplanes over Sidon in southern Lebanon. UPI reported that the White House is currently studying means to launch attacks which have been described as "preemptive" air strikes by the U.S. Air Force against areas inhabited by unarmed Palestinians and Lebanese refugees and civilians, where positions of the Lebanese nationalist movements and the Syrian military detachment that form part of the Arab peacekeeping force in Lebanon are located.

The reports said that the U.S. plans in the Arab region are not confined to the movement of U.S. forces and U.S. arms, but that its strategic ally, the Zionist entity, is participating with it. Citing informed sources in Washington, AFP reported that the United States and Israel will conduct joint military maneuvers in the Middle East in the near future. News agencies reported that arrangements concerning these maneuvers will be made by the two sides in Washington tomorrow within the framework of the joint military committee which stems from the strategic alliance agreements which have been signed recently.

QATAR

Papers View ICO Summit, Egypt's Return

GF211102 Doha QNA in Arabic 0745 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Doha, 21 Jan (QNA) — The newspaper *AL-'ARAB* said today in its editorial that the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference was held at a decisive stage, and that is why the hopes of the Arab and Muslim worlds were pinned on it to achieve more cohesion and support for Arab and Islamic causes.

AL-'ARAB recalled Qatar's support for Islamic causes and said: The affirmation by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar, of the importance of implementing the summit's resolutions for the Islamic world, reflects Qatar's sound policy and thoughtful ideas for more unified Islamic action in the service of Islamic causes, which the summit's resolutions dealt with thoroughly and in detail.

The newspaper also recalled the Qatari amir's affirmation on this occasion of the need to establish Islamic solidarity in preserving the Islamic nation's unity and its holy places, rights, and dignity. The paper said that the Casablanca conference, with all its resolutions, affirmed the need for the nation's unity in facing challenges and preserving rights, dignity, and holy places.

The English-language paper *GULF TIMES* expressed the hope that the negotiations — which the committee appointed by the summit will hold on Egypt's return to the ICO — will achieve success, saying that this is a great step forward. The paper added: After this step, all Arab countries should express their feelings to the Muslim world and pave the way for Egypt's return to the Arab world in view of the sacrifices Egypt has made for the sake of the Arab causes.

GULF TIMES urged all Arab countries to give the necessary assistance and support for the Arab peace plan, noting that the Islamic world said that it would continue the struggle to liberate Jerusalem and the occupied territories and restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people under the PLO's leadership.

Papers on 'Suicidal' Attacks on U.S. Ships

GF221218 Doha QNA in Arabic 0730 GMT 22 Jan 84

[From press review]

[Text] Doha, 22 Jan (QNA) — In their editorials today, the Qatari newspapers *AL-'ARAB* and *GULF TIMES* dealt with the U.S. presence in Lebanon, the threat posed by this presence, and the United States' fear of suicidal operations against this presence.

The newspaper *AL-'ARAB* said: A day does not pass without a U.S. official or the U.S. media announcing Washington's fears of new suicidal operations aimed at some U.S. targets, particularly the U.S. warships which are presently off the Lebanese coast. The newspaper said that this U.S. fear increased yesterday after it was announced that there are forces which are preparing to carry out suicide operations with planes against U.S. warships, which lead to U.S. forces in the Mediterranean Sea and in the Gulf waters being put on alert.

The newspaper pointed out that the American people, who have been made fearful by the Reagan administration, did not ask the master of the White House about the dimensions, dangers, and goals of the hostile U.S. presence in various parts of the world, when this very presence is causing these developments since it is the right of nations to defend themselves and resist U.S. aggression and mastery.

AL-'ARAB expected that by arousing fear in the American people, the Reagan administration hopes to carry out new aggression and implement its terrorist plan against some forces, particularly in the Arab arena.

At the conclusion of its editorial, it called for alertness in resisting the goals of the U.S. Administration, particularly those involving Lebanese national and progressive forces.

The newspaper *GULF TIMES*, which is published in English, said that the U.S. warning about approaching any U.S. warship in the Gulf region shows the possibilities of interference in the Gulf by the superpowers. In this regard, the newspaper affirmed that the Arab countries in the Gulf have made their stance clear enough, especially at the Gulf summit — which was held recently in Doha — where these countries affirmed that they do not desire any superpower presence in the Gulf region and its neighboring environs, because of the realization that any spark can ignite a big explosion.

The *GULF TIMES* pointed out that the United States is pretending that its warnings are being made as a precaution against terrorism. The paper said that it is understood that the United States wishes to defend its forces if they are subjected to real threats, pointing out that the mission of these forces is confined to Lebanon and does not encompass the Gulf.

The newspaper said that the Arabs might agree to such warnings regarding the gulf, on the condition that it is the Gulf of Mexico and not the Arabian Gulf.

SAUDI ARABIA

Pakistan President Departs After Brief Visit

LD221226 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1120 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Medina, 22 Jan (SPA) — The president of Pakistan, General Ziaul Haq, has left Medina for home after a brief visit to the Kingdom during which he went on a minor pilgrimage.

Nigerian Envoy Brings Presidential Message for Fahd

LD221221 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1107 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 22 Jan (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, this afternoon in his office at the Royal Court received the special envoy of the President of Nigeria, Liman Ciroma, who handed his royal highness a message for His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister and inspector general, and by Nigeria's ambassador to the Kingdom, Tahir Abu Bakr Waziri.

Bangladeshi President Departs Following Visit

LD210910 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0745 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Jidda, 21 Jan (SPA) — The President of Bangladesh, Hussain Mohammad Ershad, this morning left Jidda for his country after a 2-day visit to the Kingdom during which he carried out a pilgrimage.

He was seen off by the deputy governor of Mecca, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud ibn abd al-Muhsin, the administrative officer of Jidda 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Sidiri, head of the Jidda royal protocol office 'Abd al-'Aziz Jakhdar and the Bangladeshi ambassador to the Kingdom.

Paper Comments on Implementing ICO Resolutions

GF221044 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Jan 84

[From press review]

[Excerpt] The newspaper *AL-YAWM* said: We call on the Muslim leaders to implement the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference in order to strengthen the organization.

Denunciation and condemnation will not restore the dignity of the Islamic nation. What will are efforts to use its power for the benefit of Islam and Muslims everywhere. Let our talks be followed by our deeds and not more talk.

AL-YAWM said that the Zionist enemy will not be deterred unless it sees that the Islamic summit resolutions are being implemented, and that will make it a think thousand times before it violates the Islamic holy places.

Saudi Policy To Remain Firm Despite Kidnapping

LD221512 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Commentary by Samir Habib Bakhsh]

[Excerpts] At a time when efforts to find the Saudi consul in Beirut and bring him home are continuing, various world countries have condemned the kidnapping. It was not only the King-

dom that condemned this incident, and the Kingdom was not alone in expressing its regret and pain at the kidnapping of the Saudi consul in the Lebanese capital. It was the whole world, as mentioned earlier, that condemned the kidnapping and praised the prominent role played by the Kingdom toward Lebanon.

It is worth noting that the last Arab diplomat kidnapped in Beirut before the kidnapping of the Saudi consul was the Jordanian charge d'affaires, Hisham al-Mihaysin, who was kidnapped on 6 February 1981. He returned home 3 months later. The incident of the kidnapping of the Saudi consul in Beirut and other such acts resorted to by elements working covertly — whatever their identity — will not affect the Kingdom's firm belief and unshakable faith in continuing its earnest policy, a policy that is based on moral principles, stemming from genuine Islamic and Arab values, which are also based on behaving in accordance with the codes of Islamic law and international practices in a way that serves our national interests and the causes of our Arab nation. Out of its concern to achieve the objectives of this nation and support its issues, the Kingdom has been, and is still, making repeated efforts at various levels. Within this sphere, the Kingdom has continued its efforts and endeavors to resolve the Lebanese crisis and bandage the wounds of Lebanon which have been bleeding for 9 consecutive years.

We would like to repeat that the kidnapping of the Saudi consul in Beirut — which is an act that does not benefit anyone except the enemies of the Arab nation — will have no effect whatsoever on the persistent efforts made to save Lebanon from the tragedy under the weight of which it has been sinking. There only remains to point out what was stressed by an official source in the Kingdom in reply to a query from the SPA regarding the kidnapping: that we are confident that our brothers in Lebanon — the president, government and people — will spare no effort in securing the return of the Saudi consul, to enable him to continue to perform his duty in the service of the two fraternal countries.

UAE

Nigerian Delegation Visits for Talks

GF221550 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1455 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Dubayy, 22 Jan (WAKH) — Brigadier Mohamed Nasko, member of the Nigerian Supreme Military Council, arrived here today leading a delegation on a visit to the UAE. During the visit, Brigadier Mohamed will hold talks with a number of officials in the UAE on the latest developments in Nigeria as well as Nigeria's relations with OPEC. The Nigerian delegation is currently making a tour of a number of OPEC member-states that include Kuwait, Iran, Qatar, and Iraq.

President Receives Message

GF221816 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Jan (WAKH) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a written message from Nigerian Leader Major General Mohamed Buhari dealing with Nigeria's wish to strengthen its relations with the UAE and issues of mutual concern.

The message was received by Lieutenant General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the UAE armed forces, during a meeting with Brigadier Mohamed Nasko, member of the Nigerian Supreme Military Council, here this evening.

During the meeting, they reviewed the latest political developments in Nigeria and the plans of the new Nigerian Government to fulfill its international commitments and its full respect for the international charters and norms. During the meeting, which was attended by UAE Foreign Ministry undersecretary 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan, the Nigerian delegation also affirmed Nigeria's plans to maintain the unity and coherence of OPEC.

Developments, Reaction To ICO Decision

Ghali: Preconditions Unacceptable

LD201448 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Experts] After having extended the time, and after hours of suspense, the fourth Islamic summit finally concluded late last night in Casablanca with the acceptance of the principle of Egypt's readmission into the bosom of the Islamic family, despite strong opposition from Libya in particular.

Following is Cairo's official reaction from Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, interviewed exclusively by Alain Chalveron:

[Begin recording] [Ghali] Egypt is ready to participate in the activities of that organization because it is one of the most important Islamic countries. Having said this, Egypt is ready to reenter that organization barring any condition which might curtail its sovereignty or that might restrict its policies, notably the agreements it concluded with the State of Israel.

[Chalveron] Thus you would refuse if the Islamic Conference or any agreements concluded after the Casablanca meeting offered you a conditional readmission?

[Ghali] Without any hesitation.

[Chalveron] You would even refuse to study the conditions submitted to you?

[Ghali] We would refuse to even look at the conditions because either we are accepted as we are or it is useless for us to participate in the activities of that organization.

[Chalveron] So, it is the very principle of conditional readmission that you reject?

[Ghali] Precisely. [end recording]

Mubarak Welcomes Toure, Ziaul Haq Visit

LD202055 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA) — Dr 'Usamah al-Baz, first secretary of the Foreign Ministry and presidential adviser for political affairs, has announced that President Husni Mubarak welcomes the visit of Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure and Pakistani President Ziaul Haq to Cairo.

He will be happy to express to them, in the name of the Egyptian people, the deep feelings of fraternity and appreciation for the noble stand they have taken together with the leaders of most of the fraternal Islamic states at the fourth Islamic summit, and for their praise of Egypt and its role and struggle for Arab and Islamic causes.

Papers Praise Casablanca Resolution

NC210732 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0520 GMT 21 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] *AL-AHRAM* and *AL-JUMHURIYAH* have written editorials on the fourth ICO meetings which concluded in Casablanca yesterday. *AL-AHRAM* says the most outstanding characteristics of the ICO discussions are the stands of Islamic, Arab, African, and Asian leaderships, which supported the right path, defended fateful issues, and adopted heroic stances, affirming the extent of their realization and understanding of the realities of the situation in which the Islamic world is living, and the requirements of the delicate stage through which the Islamic peoples are passing.

AL-AHRAM says that before anticipating events and analyzing results, Egypt would like to record the stances of these leaderships with the utmost appreciation and admiration, which truly and honestly defended the Palestinian cause, and highlighted the true role Egypt has played for the Palestinian people in regaining their legitimate rights and lands, including east Jerusalem, and in carrying out the mission of Islam and peace throughout the ages.

AL-AHRAM points out that during the discussions and while the decisive resolutions were being adopted, and in bilateral meetings of many delegations, Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure's wisdom, Pakistani President Ziaul Haq's ability, and Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat's faith highlighted the important pivotal role Egypt has and is playing in the interest of the Arab and Islamic peoples and in the establishment of rights, justice, and peace.

Concluding its editorial, *AL-AHRAM* says the experience of the Casablanca summit has proven that these Arab leaderships, whose will concurred with the vision and wisdom of the African and Asian leaderships, are working for peace and in the interest of their peoples. These leaderships are avoiding the empty slogans and false appeals of heroism, which prompted a small group to walk out against an overwhelming majority, clear stands, sound vision, and precise appreciation of the realities of the situation through which we are all living.

Commenting on the same issue under the headline: "Egypt's Return Is a Triumph for Its Will," *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says the decisive political victory Egypt achieved in Casablanca yesterday is cogent proof that Egypt is the patriotic and pulsating heart of the Islamic nation, and that without it the various levels of action regarding political liberation would lose its primary and positive pillar for success and continuation.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that ICO sources indicated that Egypt's return imposed itself despite the fact that Egypt was not on the agenda. Many delegation heads affirmed in lobbies that Egypt's absence was a great mistake and that the Islamic world had lost a great deal by that absence.

Concluding its editorial, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says it is always actions and not words or slogans that count.

uf headlinePalestinians Welcome ICO Resolution
NC211857 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Palestinian sources in Cairo have welcomed the fourth ICO summit's resolution ending the suspension of Egypt's membership in that organization. The sources consider the resolution a natural and just outcome of Egypt's popular and official stance supporting the Palestinian question.

PNC Secretary Muhammad Subayh said Egypt's return to the ICO is a positive step, and expressed the hope that this step will be completed by Egypt's return to the Arab summit.

PNC member Sa'id Kamal praised the ICO's resolution and said Egypt's return represents a further contribution toward supporting the Palestinian people's rights.

Mubarak Receives Message From Saudi King
LD202148 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2021 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (MEAN) — In it 21 January issue, *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* reports that President Husni Mubarak received a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, when the latter was attending the Islamic summit conference which ended its work in Casablanca yesterday.

Iraqi President Husayn Telephones Mubarak
NC211256 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Iraqi President Saddam Husayn telephoned President Husni Mubarak this afternoon during which they exchanged views on regional issues.

Mubarak, Jordan's Husayn Discuss Regional Issues
NC202122 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan telephoned each other today within the context of consultations and exchanges of views on regional issues. President Mubarak thismorning telephoned the Jordanian monarch, who telephoned President Mubarak this evening.

Mubarak Receives Jordanian Minister 21 Jan
NC211121 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received at noon today Jordanian Royal Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, who arrived in Cairo today on a visit to last several hours.

Omani Foreign Affairs Official Visits

Meets 'Ali; Praises ICO Decision
NC221843 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA) — Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdullah arrived in Cairo this evening heading a delegation on a 1-day visit to Egypt. He was received by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

In an arrival statement, Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdullah said he will convey an oral message from Sultan Qabus to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak dealing with important issues that concern Egypt and Oman, adding that the visit falls within the context of continued consultations between the two countries.

Reacting to a question regarding the results of the Islamic Conference summit, the Omani minister said they were positive and the decision to bring Egypt back to the ICO was appreciated by all leaders. He pointed out that the decision was unanimously adopted by 33 states, demonstrating those states' conviction of the importance of Egypt's presence in the organization so it can shoulder its responsibilities within the Islamic framework.

Meets With Mubarak 23 Jan
NC231103 Cairo MENA in English 1010 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, Jan 23 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak this morning received Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani foreign minister. The meeting was attended by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Ghalib Jubran, Omani ambassador here. Al-'Alawi arrived here yesterday carrying a message from Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman to President Husni Mubarak.

Departs With Mubarak Message
NC231150 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA) — Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdullah left Cairo this afternoon following a 1-day visit to Egypt.

Before his departure, Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdullah told MENA that he had conveyed a message to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak from Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id dealing with the outcome of the fourth ICO summit and exchanged views on action during the coming phase in light of the historical decision made by the ICO summit. He added that he is carrying a verbal message from President Mubarak to his Brother Sultan Qabus.

The Omani guest was seen off by Assistant Foreign Minister ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid and Ghalib Jubran, Omani ambassador to Cairo.

Visiting Comoran Minister On ICO Decision

NC211300 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Comoran Justice Minister Abdu Moustakim has said that Egypt's return to the ICO provides Egypt with a great initiative to restore its role in serving the Islamic and Arab worlds. In a statement he made today after meeting Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, Moustakim said he conveyed a message from the Comoran prime minister to Dr Butrus Ghali regarding bilateral relations, increasing the number of Comoran students in Egypt, and means for strengthening relations in various areas.

Ghali Confers With French Envoy 21 Jan

NC211203 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1145 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received French Ambassador in Cairo Philippe Cuvillier. During the meeting, they reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East as well as the contacts and efforts being made to solve the area's problems and achieve peace. The meeting is within the framework of constant contacts and coordination between Egyptian and French diplomats vis-a-vis all developments in the Middle East.

Egyptian-French Military Delegations Meet

NC221118 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA) — Military talks between an Egyptian delegation, led by Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, and a French delegation, led by Chief of Staff General Jeannou Lacaze on bolstering bilateral military relations were held today at the Army forces' general headquarters.

General Lakaze arrived in Cairo yesterday on a 6-day official visit to Egypt at the invitation of Al-'Urabi.

Australia's Hayden Arrives in Cairo 22 Jan

Relations, Middle East on Agenda

NC221855 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1744 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA) — Australian Foreign Minister William Hayden this evening arrived in Cairo for a 4-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

During the visit, Hayden will hold talks with Kamal Hasan 'Ali,deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who was on hand at the airport to greet Hayden. The talks will deal with bilateral relations and the Middle East situation. It is noteworthy that this is Hayden's first visit to Egypt as foreign minister.

In an arrival statement, the Australian foreign minister praised Egyptian-Australian relations. He said his talks will touch on the promotion of these relations, particularly in the economic and trade fields.

He said his talks will also deal with the issue of the Australian contingent of the Multinational Force in light of the Australian Government's decision to withdraw that contingent.

In reply, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt will ask that the Australian contingent remain in Sinai since from the beginning, Australia has contributed troops to the Multinational Force. Furthermore, this contribution has been efficiently executed and the Australian contingent is regarded as a basic component of this force.

'Ali added that a sensitive situation will ensue should Australia withdraw its contingent. This is because both Egypt and Israel have adhered to the peace treaty, and the Multinational Force iscommited to the implementation of that treaty. The talks between Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the Australian foreign minister are scheduled to begin tomorrow, Monday.

During the visit, the Australian foreign minister will meet with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, and with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Meets Abu Ghazalah

NC231133 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1125 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 jan (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production this morning received William Hayden, Australian minister of foreign affairs. Hayden arrived yesterday in Cairo on a 4-day visit.

Assembly Speaker Receives PRC Delegation

NC221626 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Dr Kamil Layla today received at his office Wang Renzhong, vice chairman of the Chinese National People's Congress Standing Committee, and the delegation accompanying him. Views were exchanged on questions of international peace and security in general and of peace and security in the Middle East in particular, as well as on the efforts exerted by the Egyptian and Chinese peoples in the economic and social development fields.

During the meeting, the Chinese delegation expressed its full appreciation of Egyptian foreign policy and the efforts and sacrifices Egypt has made for the sake of the Arab states and to enable the Palestinian people to attain their legitimate rights. The delegation reaffirmed China's firm position that the Palestinian question is the essence and core of the conflict in the region; that Israel must withdraw from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the West Bank, Gaza Sector and East Jerusalem; and that the Palestinian people must attain their legitimate rights, including those of self-determination and establishment of their own state on their soil.

Ghali on Cooperation With Jordan, PLO

NC221353 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has declared that Egypt is prepared to cooperate with Jordan and the PLO for the sake of achieving an agreement between them over the settlement of the Palestinian problem and finding a new formula to reactivate the peace process.

In an exclusive statement to a radio correspondent, Dr Ghali said should Jordan and the PLO reach agreement through bilateral contacts, or through Egyptian participation, Jordan would then be able to cooperate with the United States in commencing new negotiations regarding the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He added that Egypt is prepared to participate in those negotiations, and hopes the Israeli side will take part in them in order that the Palestinian problem could be solved.

Dr Ghali said: In addition to its efforts to find coordination between Jordan and the PLO, Egypt is also working to present the Palestinian cause at international conferences. He added that Egypt hopes that the CSCE, now convening in Stockholm, will discuss Middle East issues, particularly Palestinian and Lebanese issues, and adopt resolutions that would give an impetus to peace efforts, especially since there are strong links between European and Middle Eastern security.

Khalil on King Husayn's West Bank Plan

NC210917 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0730 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — Dr Mustafa Khalil, NDP deputy leader for foreign affairs, said Egypt welcomes the formula King Husayn of Jordan recently proposed because it embodies what Egypt had already advocated regarding the need for the participation of the Palestinians and Jordan in the peace negotiations. Khalil asserted that the step the Jordanian monarch has taken demonstrates his total concern about saving the occupied Arab land and finding a solution to the Palestinian question through negotiations.

In a statement to today's issue of the weekly newspaper *AKHBAR AL-YAWM*, Khalil said King Husayn took a basic step in expressing his good intentions toward the Palestinian issue by following his call to convene the House of Representatives with a Cabinet reshuffle which included eight Palestinian ministers, including the foreign minister.

Khalil said the assumption by certain people that the king's plan involves bad intentions is regrettable, for by taking this step King Husayn has proven he has considerable courage for moving the situation and not waiting until the land is lost. He pointed out thatKing Husayn could have maintained an inactive approach and used the pretext of the failure of his talks last April with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. However, by taking this action and calling on the PLO to reach a practical formula for cooperation to liberate the land, he has undertaken a great responsibility for which we must congratulate him. Dr Khalil said the PLO, particularly Yasir 'Arafat, is required to respond to King Husayn's call and set a date for a meeting. He pointed out Syria might place a stumbling block in the way of the initiative if no avenue is opened for it to regain the Golan Heights through negotiations, referring to the adoption of the Israeli law to implement Israeli measures in the Golan and the failure to fulfillCarter's promise to President al-Asad to solve the Golan problem. That is why Syria pursued the policy of attempting to control the PLO and exploited the PLO's internal differences, causing the recent fighting among PLO factions, which eventually lead to 'Arafat's departure from Tripoli.

Dr Khalil said if King Husayn and 'Arafat accept U.S. President Ronald Reagan's initiative, while maintaining their own reservations, this would constitute a practical approach to negotiations without harming their inalienable and principled rights. He pointed out that Jordan is the country best suited to carry out this action for certain considerations, including that it has no armed groups within the PLO, like Syria, and is not acting to control the PLO's decisionmaking. On the contrary, Jordan is calling for consultations and agreement on a joint plan of action. In addition, Jordan is the primary country qualified to do this, exactly like Egypt, because the Palestinian issue involves the West Bank, which was part of Jordan. Syria is geographically and historically far from the West Bank and Gaza Sector.

Dr Mustafa Khalil absolutely affirmed that Egypt has not spoken on behalf of the Palestinians, saying: I don't think Egypt would accept doing that. It is a Palestinian issue, and the decision about it must be Palestinian.

He said all that Egypt has done is to focus on the need to end the Israeli military rule and civil administration, and the need to elect a Palestinian administration in the West Bank and Gaza Strip which enjoys all the necessary powers.

He said no Arab agreement thus far exists with which it will be possible to confront the United States and ask it to prove the credibility of its participation as a full partner in a just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The first step must be to achieve such an agreement. It isn't possible to say for sure when such an agreement can be reached, because it will depend on the actions the Palestinians will take, on the length of time the negotiations between the Palestinians and Jordan will take, on the reaction of the Arab states concerned, and on the course of the Jordanian-Palestinian negotiations.

He said the PLO lost its military option against Israel since 'Arafat and Philip Habib, U.S. envoy to the Middle East, reached agreement in 1982 to cease military operations from Lebanese territory. And the fact that Syria will not permit any operations to be directed against Israel from its territory indicates that the military option cannot be exercised unless it means carrying out operations inside the occupied Arab territories, operations which thus far have not proved their value in solving the Palestinian problem.

At the conclusion of his interview, Dr Khalil affirmed that Egypt does not have any organization or groups inside the PLO which it could utilize to exert pressure on Palestinian decisionmaking. Egypt supports the Palestinian cause in words and deeds. We suffered losses for the sake of the Palestinian cause which no

other state has suffered. President Husni Mubarak's recent meeting with 'Arafat in Cairo was the best proof of the possibility of developing relations to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the area.

Muhyi ad-Din on Inter-Arab Issues, Elections

NC230913 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0730 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA) — Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din confirmed that putting the Palestinian house in order is the cornerstone of Palestinian decisionmaking and that it will pave the way for a decisive stance and moves essential to the future of Palestinian action.

In an interview published today in the weekly magazine *MAY*, Dr Muhyi ad-Din expressed his belief in the significance of the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue, describing it as essential and important. Muhyi ad-Din also expressed his hope that the Lebanese issue, national reconciliation, and the search for a settlement will not be delayed so that a solution to the Palestinian problem can be found.

Talking about Arab-Egyptian relations, the prime minister confirmed that there are continued and known contacts between Egypt and many Arab leaders. These contacts aim at serving the Arab people, and involve all of the Arab issues. Dr Muhyi ad-Din stressed that there is no problem in the resumption of diplomatic relations between Egypt and the Arab countries, adding: We are not in a rush.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din commented on Egyptian-Israeli relations, saying no progress is being made in that area. He pointed out that Egypt's conditions regarding the return of the Egyptian ambassador are well known and that President Husni Mubarak has reiterated them. There will only be progress on this issue when essential changes take place on those points we deem essential and vital to those relations, he said.

Commenting on internal issues, Dr Muhyi ad-Din answered a question on rumors of new guarantees regarding the coming People's Assembly elections and the formation of a neutral government to supervise these elections, saying such situations are out of the question. Dr Muhyi ad-Din also denied that there is any intention to modify the election law. Answering another question regarding the dialogue between the government and opposition, the prime minister stressed that the dialogue is continuing in both the opposition and NDP press. He said that we are exchanging views through these papers and that there is also a dialogue in the People's Assembly between the NDP deputies and opposition deputies as well as through the meetings and rallies organized by both the opposition and NDP.

Military Committee To Visit Saudi Arabia, Kuwait

GF221142 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 22 Jan 84 p 4

[By Mideast correspondent]

[Text] Cairo — A military committee will leave Cairo at the beginning of next month to spend two weeks in Saudi Arabia andKuwait to regulate the legal position of Egyptians working abroad in connection with military service. The committee will deal with those people who have reached the age of 30, which is the limit for conscription, and has the power to grant exemption. The committee will also handle the cases of Egyptians living in Jordan, Lebanon, the UAE, North Yemen and Oman from its two bases.

Two similar committees are going to the U.S. and Canada, and Britain and West Germany.

AL-AHRAM on Mubarak Meeting With NDP Leaders

NC230737 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 23 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] An article in today's *AL-AHRAM* discusses the recent meeting between President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and the NDP leadership, saying the president has resolved several issues in a way that can serve as a point of reference to the parties involved in internal and external politics. President Mubarak outlined two facts which obviously are the hallmarks for everyone interested in understanding Egyptian internal and external policies.

The paper refers to what the president said about his intention to continue leading the NDP and to tour the governorates in person to stress this point. Meanwhile, the president has declared that Egypt abides by the policy of peace without offering any concessions to the East or West.

The paper says this message should be clearly understood by everyone inside and outside Egypt. The president's continued leadership of the NDP does not mean that he is biased or prejudiced. It simply means his leadership of the NDP benefits the whole nation and that Mubarak, by virtue of his position, dealings, and special strategic outlook, considers the NDP — in his era — as truly representing not only the actual political situation but also the life and future of the ordinary Egyptian citizen, regardless of how we view that citizen.

Saddam Husayn Chairs RCC-Ba'th Party Meeting

JN211345 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1310 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn this morning chaired a joint meeting of the RCC and the Ba'th Party Regional Command in order to discuss the Casablanca Islamic summit resolutions and the Iraqi delegation's activities during the conference. The meeting appreciated the conference's resolution on the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and its understanding of Iraq's positive stand toward the Islamic peace committee initiative and the various calls for realizing peace. The meeting also praised the Islamic summit's support for the UN Security Council resolutions, including Resolution No 540. The meeting assessed the summit's decision pertaining to restoring Egypt's membership in the ICO.

The meeting assessed the results of Interior Minister Sa'dun Shakir's visit to Turkey and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali's visit to Brazil.

President Addresses Egyptians Working in Iraq

JN221716 Baghdad INA in English 1700 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, Jan 22, INA —Iraqi President Saddam Husayn said today the resolutions of Baghdad summit were against "a casual state foisted on Egypt's history."

President Husayn, addressing a group of Egyptians working in Iraq, explained why Iraq had taken a staunch position of support in the recently concluded Islamic summit in Morocco to get Egypt back into the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

He said "Baghdad's summit resolutions were not against Egypt, but in support of it...in support of Egypt against a casual state foisted on Egypt's history. [ellipses as received] It is not a disgrace, but an honour to say that Iraq at the Islamic summit fought from an advanced position with other good people to reach that decision."

"Any Arab may ask why Iraq had taken a counter stand, with the same belief and vigour, to that at Baghdad's summit? The answer is the high feeling in pan-Arab responsibility and faith that Egypt's people is part of the nation," he said.

President Husayn said the officials in Egypt now believe in the same principles which the Islamic summit and the Arab League had stood on and were not responsible for the difficult situation they were put in.

He said if Egypt did not exercise its pan-Arab responsibility and the Arabs remained far away from Egypt and did not interact positively in a way that serves the Arab nation, then the enemies of the nation would be the only winners.

President Husayn disclosed that the number of Egyptians who volunteered to fight alongside Iraq against Iran was more than the number of all other Arab volunteers.

Armed Forces General Command Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,347

JN201644 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jan (INA) — Yesterday evening and today, the Iranian regime shelled Mandali, Sayyid Sadiq, (Shandari) and their suburbs, damaging several civilian installations.

This was reported by Communique No. 1,347 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,347 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In defense of the homeland, principles, and values, the valiant Iraqis continue their triumphant activities against the rancorous enemy. The results yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of forward units pounded an enemy troop concentration opposite its positions in the central sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, killing three Iranians, wounding others, and destroying one hardware stockpile.

2. Our forward units pounded enemy positions opposite their positions in the northern sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, killing two and destroying one hardware stockpile.

3. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our forward units' positions east of Basra. Our units shelled it, killing three.

4. The treacherous Khomeyniite regime shelled Mandali, Sayyid Sadiq, (Shandari) and their suburbs yesterday evening and today, damaging several civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 January 1984.

Communique No 1,348

JN211706 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes today raided Iranian positions and concentrations in the northern sector, and inflicted human and material losses. This was announced in Communique No 1,348 issued here tonight by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command. The communique said that heavy columns of smoke were seen rising from the hit enemy targets. It added that all Iraqi fighter planes returned safely to base.

The communique also said that new groups of Iranian soldiers today sought refuge with our forces in the Maysan sector, and that they were all safely evacuated to the rear. One of the Iraqi forward units fired on an Iranian patrol that attempted to advance toward our positions in the Maysan sector. A number of enemy troops were either killed or wounded in this operation.

The communique pointed out that Iraqi artillery was used against a number of pieces of Iranian engineering equipment in the area

east of Basra, scoring direct, effective hits. It also said that Mandali, Zurbatiyah, and Khurmal were shelled yesterday and today with artillery, and that a number of civilian establishments were damaged.

The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,348 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With great confidence in their ability to deter aggressors, the sons of our Armed Forces are continuing their operations against the Iranian enemy. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Daring formations of our Air Force planes carried out bold and surprise raids today against enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector of the front, scoring direct, effective hits. Our planes inflicted losses in men and equipment, and heavy columns of smoke were seen rising over the hit enemy areas. All of our planes returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

2. One of our forward units fired on an enemy patrol that attempted to advance toward our positions in the Maysan sector. A number of enemy troops were either killed or wounded.

In the same sector today, new groups of enemy soldiers, escaping the tyranny and oppression of the Iranian ruling clique, sought refuge with our forward units. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

3. Our forward units used artillery to pound a number of pieces of Iranian engineering equipment in the area east of Basra, scoring direct, effective hits.

4. Yesterday and today, the mean Iranian regime's artillery shelled Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Khurmal and their environs, damaging a number of civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 January 1984

Communique No 1,349

JN221720 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Communique No 1,349 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 22 January 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our brave Armed Forces are continuing their activities in the operational sectors against the rancorous enemy forces. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. This afternoon our bold fighter planes carried out several successful combat missions against the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the areas opposite our forward units' positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits. Resulting explosions were seen in the attacked enemy targets. All our fighter planes returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Our forward units opened fire on the enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing three, wounding others, and destroying two vehicles, one observation post, and three infantry positions with their occupants.

3. One of our forward units opened artillery fire on an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing or wounding four enemy troops, and destroying one machine gun and one weapon emplacement.

4. Our forward units engaged enemy targets opposite our positions east of Basra with artillery, dealing them very effective blows and inflicting losses in both men and equipment.

5. Today the criminal Khomeyniite clique shelled Zurbatiyah and its environs with artillery, damaging some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 January 1984

Spokesman Refutes Iranian Claims on Aircraft Downing

JN221302 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jan (INA) — Iraq has refuted Iranian claims of shooting down an Iraqi fighter aircraft over the Kodu heights in Iran's Kordestan.

In a statement to INA today, an Iraqi military spokesman said that the Iranian regime resorts to such claims after failing to achieve any of its objectives on the battlefront.

The spokesman added that the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command's Communique No 1,348 issued yesterday mentioned that the Iraqi fighter aircraft returned safely to base after completing their combat missions against Iranian positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector.

Interior Minister Returns From Turkey 20 Jan

JN201954 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member and interior minister, and the delegation accompanying him returned to Baghdad from Ankara this evening at the end of a 3-day visit to Turkey.

In a statement to INA, Shakir said that he will convey Turkish president Kenan Evren's greetings to President Saddam Husayn. He added that he met with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and Interio.' Minister Ali Tanriyar, with whom he discussed the development of bilateral relations in service of the two peoples' interests. During the visit, a protocol was signed for developing cooperation between Interior Ministries of the two friendly countries.

Khalil al-Wazir Confers With State Leaders

Prime Minister 'Ubaydat

JN211121 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat received at his office this morning Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, who congrulated 'Ubaydat on his appointment as prime minister. During the meeting, they discussed the matters that concern the Jordanian and Palestinian sides and reviewed developments in the region on the Arab, Islamic, and international levels.

King Husayn

JN221613 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon Khalil Al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. During the meeting, they discussed coordination and cooperation between Jordan and the PLO aimed at saying the territory and kinfolk.

'Abd ar-Razzak al-Yahya, representative of the PLO Executive Committee in Jordan, attended the meeting.

Jordanian-Palestinian Committee To Meet Soon

JN211118 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 21 Jan (PETRA) — *AD-DUSTUR* says that the technical office of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee to support the steadfastness of our kinfolk in the occupied territories in cooperation with Halul's deported Mayor Muhammad Milhim and Hebron's deported Mayor Fahd al-Qawasimah has begun to prepare a detailed report on the situation of the muncipalities in the occupied territories for presentation to the joint committee at the beginning of next week. The committee is expected to begin a series of meetings to discuss the situation of our kinfolk in the occupied homeland. The meetings of the committee stopped for a while due to lack of financial sources and the abnormal conditions which the PLO faced recently.

Informed sources said that the joint committee, which depends on Arab support, is still waiting for some fraternal Arab countries to meet their obligations toward our kinfolk in the occupied territories. Last year, the committee received only the Saudi share and one installment of the Kuwaiti share.

The sources said that Libya, which is one of the Arab countries which pledged at the Baghdad summit to pay a share, has not paid any of its obligations. The sources also said that some Arab countries are expected to pay their shares soon.

Palestinian Research Center Director Arrives

JN220904 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Amman, *AD-DUSTUR* — Sabri Jiryis, director of the PLO's Research Center, arrived in Amman on a visit that will last several days. While here, Jiryis will hold talks on establishing the Research Center in Jordan with the authorities concerned.

Court Minister Returns From Cairo 21 Jan

JN211630 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Minister of Court 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah returned to Amman this evening after a short visit to Cairo during which he conveyed a message from His Majesty King Husayn to Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak dealing with Arab issues of joint interest and the Islamic summit's decision to restore Egypt's ICO membership. In a statement he made on arrival in Amman, Abu 'Awdah said that he will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from Presidient Husni Mubarak in reply to his majesty's message.

Prince Hasan Speech on Egypt's Return to ICO

JN201155 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 20 Jan 84 p 12

["Text" of speech by Crown Prince Hasan at Islamic summit conference in Casablanca on 18 January 1984]

[Text] Your Majesty, the chairman of the conference:

When His Excellency President Ahmed Sekou Toure presented a proposal yesterday on ending the suspension of Egypt's membership, many brothers, the heads of delegations, expressed their viewpoints on this matter. Many delegations supported the proposal, and others opposed. Both the supporters and opponents expressed their stands with enthusiasm, proceeding from their great concern about Palestine and the Palestinian people, and from their deep awareness of the importance of curbing the Zionist occupation against Palestine and the Arabs. The supporters and opponents also noted the ordeal of fraternal Egypt, its sacrifices, and its weight in the Arab and Islamic world. Every party explained its stand in detail.

Yesterday's discussions were full of principled political and organizational matters.

Brothers, today I want to explain the Jordanian position on this question which I mentioned breifly in my speech yesterday. Gentlemen, Jordan and the fraternal Arab countries participated in the Baghdad summit and played a distinguished role in the conference's resolution to suspend Egypt's membership and to implement a boycott of Egypt. Jordan's role in that conference was special and important. This is because, as you know, Jordan was required, in accordance with the Camp David accords, to participate in peace negotiations instead of the PLO. Therefore,

Jordan's role and contribution to the Baghdad conference was a basic one. Jordan's stand on the side of Arab unanimity proceeded from its conviction that has never changed: the free PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Proceeding from this basic principle in our policy, the Camp David accords are completely rejected in form and substance.

We must admit that today's Egypt is not the Egypt of 1979. It is an Arab and Islamic Egypt. It is not a regional, pharaonic Egypt. Egypt has proved this through words, deeds, positions, and policies. Arab and Islamic Egypt cannot be kept from its nation, because this will abort our efforts to correct the situation resulting from the Camp David accords. The loss of the Egyptian people is a loss to our people. It is we in Jordan who will pay the price for the Camp David accords after the Palestinian and Lebanese people. Consequently, and proceeding from our responsibilities in Jordan toward Palestine, and from our confidence in the Egyptian pan-Arab trend, I declare my country's support for ending the suspension of Egypt's membership. It is obvious that the draft resolution that was presented is balanced and realistic and will guarantee Egypt's stand in support of our struggle for the sake of Palestine and Jerusalem.

I am not defending the proposal presented by President Sekou Toure, but I am refuting the threats directed by the Libyan representative yesterday and today against Jordan. Although this honorable conference is fully aware of the Libyan threats against its members, I would like to say that the threats and Libya's millions of dollars will not terrify anyone. Jordan dow not fear anybody. It has always adopted very clear and well known positions on all Arab and Islamic problems. Jordan's relations with the Arab nation are firm, clear, and unchanging. Jordan's sacrifices for Palestine are known to be genuine. Jordan did not pay lip service to the Palestinian cause. Such lip service has harmed the Arab reputation all over the world. Not satisifed with harming the Arab reputation, those who paid lip service yesterday attempted to harm this conference so as to insult Muslims as a whole.

May God grant us guidance on the right path.

Hasan Returns From Casablanca

JN201835 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn welcomed His Highness Crown Prince Hasan upon his return to Amman tonight after heading the Jordanian delegation to the fourth Islamic summit which ended last night in Casablanca. Returning with his highness were Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah and Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sulayman 'Arar.

Leaves for London 22 Jan

JN221945 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan left Amman this afternoon for London on a private visit to Britain. His highness the prince and the Duke of Gloucester will open the Islamic architecture fair tomorrow. The fair is being arranged by the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce and will take place at the hall of the British Engineers Royal Academy.

'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of the court; His Highness prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, chief chamberlain; Shaykh Ibrahim al-Qattan, chief qadi; Dr Nasir ad-Din al-Asad, chairman of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilization Research — Al al-Bayt Foundation; the British charge d'affaires in Amman; and a number of officials saw the crown prince off at the airport.

Prime Minister Receives Netherlands Delegation

JN211248 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat received at his office today the Netherlands parliamentary delegation, which congratulated him on his appointment as prime minister. During the meeting they reviewed bilateral relations.

Delegation Departs 22 Jan

JN221243 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The Netherlands parliamentary delegation left Amman this morning following a 2-day visit to Jordan. The members of the delegation met with the prime minister, the president of the Senate, and the speaker of the House of Representatives. They discussed means of parliamentary cooperation between Jordan and the Netherlands. The delegation members also visited various cultural and historical sites as well as various Palestinian camps in Jordan.

AD-DUSTUR: French President To Visit Jordan

JN230743 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Amman, *AD-DUSTUR* — *AD-DUSTUR* has learned from informed sources that Hani al-Khasawinah, Jordanian ambassador in Paris, arrived in Amman the day before yesterday to participate in preparing a program for French President Francois Mitterand's visit to Jordan, which will be announced later. The source noted that the French president will hold talks with His Majesty King Husayn on Middle East developments and relations between the two countries.

Cabinet Approves Amended Electoral Draft Law
JN230721 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The Cabinet held an ordinary session under Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat last night. During the session, the Cabinet approved an amended draft law to the House of Representatives 1984 elections law. The Cabinet decided to promptly refer this amended law to the House of Representatives because of the temporary and special nature of this amended draft and because elections should take place in the middle of March, at the latest, if the House of Representatives approves the amended draft.

This amendment was made because of the existance of vacant seats for the East Bank in the House of Representatives and because no electoral rolls have been prepared since 1975. Since the rolls cannot be depended on for conducting the constituencies' elections to fill the vacant seats, and since the electoral law does not help in preparing the rolls of electors' names in the constituencies where the elections will be conducted, the draft amendment to the House of Representatives elections law has been laid down to include a single transitional article whose provisions permit the preparation of such rolls.

Al-Wazzan Returns From Casablanca 22 Jan

NC221525 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan returned to Beirut from Morocco at 1615 today. Al-Wazzan had led the Lebanese delegation to the ICO, which convened in Casablanca last Monday. He was met at the airport by several officials.

In a statement he made at the airport, Al-Wazzan said: We hope our return will carry with it assurances to the Lebanese that their question is receiving more attention by the group we met with at the Islamic conference. The question requires definite followup and constant efforts. I can say that the Lebanese are entirely responsible for their question.

Foreign Minister Salim Returns From France

NC221526 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim returned to Lebanon from France at 1630 today at the end of his visit to Britain and France, where he had talks with officials on the Multinational Force's position in Lebanon.

He was met at the airport by Fu'ad at-Turk, Foreign Ministry secretary general; Khalil Makkwi, chief of political affairs at the ministry; and Sulayman Farah, chief of protocol.

VOL Says Abducted Saudi Diplomat 'Still Alive'

NC221305 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The fate of Saudi Diplomat Husayn 'Abdallah Farrash remains unknown. The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the Saudi diplomat is still alive in Jundallah Headquarters in the Bi'ir al-'Abd locality. Our information indicates that Muhsin Musawi, a member of the Husayn Musawi group, engineered the abduction in cooperation with Jundallah men.

UAE Charge d'Affaires Leaves After Threats

NC231051 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The newspaper *AL-KHALIJ*, published in Abu Dhabi, today revealed that Ibrahim Hasan Sayf, charge d'affaires at the United Arab Emirates Embassy in Beirut, returned to his country last Saturday after he and his family received threats. The newspaper explained that the diplomat received telephone calls from unidenfified persons who threatened to kidnap him as they did Husayn Farrash, the first secretary of the Saudi Embassy. The Islamic Al-Jihad Organization declared its responsibility for the Farrash kidnapping.

Army Commander Meets U.S. General Wickham

NC201539 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus received General John Wickham, U.S. Army chief of staff, this morning at 1000. They reviewed Lebanese-U.S. military cooperation in the training and equipment fields, as well as the role of the U.S. contingent of the Multinational Force.

Franjiyah, Karami, Birri on Lebanese Solution

NC220700 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah has expressed the hope that the second Geneva conference will not be in the too distant future. He said President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil will set the date and venue for the resumption of the National Dialogue Conference.

In an interview published by the Beirut newspaper *AN-NIDA'* in its special weekly issue, President Franjiyah said: I hope the next round of the Dialogue Conference will not be in the too distant future so that we may discuss internal problems, because if these problems are not discussed and agreement is not reached, they will get out of hand and make it that much more difficult to resolve. If good-intentioned people meet, the good of the country will be their only concern.

President Franjiyah reiterated his position that abrogation of the 17 May agreement and implementation of reforms are essential conditions for solving the Lebanese crisis.

In a similar interview with the same newspaper, [Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami stressed the need to abrogate the agreement, saying that national resistance is the substitute for it. Prime Minister Karami said the establishment of a new Lebanon requires a concrete political solution based on comprehensive reforms. He said the task of the Geneva conference is to discuss a comprehensive political solution, whereas the security plan is an attempt to stop a limited fight.

In another interview with the same paper, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri declared his opposition to any formula that does not unite the Lebanese. He said there is no alternative but to liberate the south through resistance. Birri supported the replacement of the Multinational Force with UN forces.

AR-RA'Y: Junblatt Calls on Al-Jumayyil To Resign

JN220854 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 22 Jan 84 pp 1, 20

[Lima Nabil dispatch]

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], has stated that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil must step down from the presidency of the Lebanese state and that his continuation as president will lead to the complete destruction of Lebanon. In a statement to *AR-RA'Y*, Junblatt added that Al-Jumayyil's government did not honor the res-

olutions of the Geneva Reconciliation Conference and that his government insists on adopting a constant stand aimed at controlling all aspects of life in Lebanon.

Junblatt said the Lebanese Government is trying to spread its hegemony with the direct help of the United States. He said: We will not stop the fighting this time until Al-Jumayyil's government steps down because its continuation in office means Lebanon's complete destruction. Junblatt further said that the current government and opposing party have reached a deadlock after Al-Jumayyil had failed in his mission following the Geneva conference. He continued to fight against the PSP instead of seriously seeking political solutions to the problem.

Junblatt noted that following the Geneva conference, President al-Jumayyil was charged with abandoning the Lebanese-Israeli 17 May agreement, but had thus far not adopted any measures in this regard. Al-Jumayyil, Junblatt added, is incapable of finding a comprehensive solution that guarantees all of the rights of the Lebanese people's various factions.

The PSP leader stressed that there will be no negotiations to stop the current battles, because our position now is to challenge the Lebanese Government until we reach a political settlement accepted by all parties and according to which we can end all the differences in Lebanon. Junblatt accused the Lebanese Army and Phalangist militias of shelling the Druze villages in the Ash-Shuf Mountains where civilians reside. He said the Lebanese Army and Phalangist militias are determined to annihilate the civilians there. They believe, he said, that by shelling the civilians they will frighten them into leaving their homes. He added that the necessary measures have been taken, including the preparation of shelters, to face this war of annihilation. He added that we will never surrender because this has been our land for thousands of years.

Replying to a question regarding his accusation that the Phalangists assassinated Dr Kerr, president of the American University of Beirut, Junblatt said the Phalangists want to control the university and assign their followers in high positions to peddle their own educational curriculum. Mr Kerr was a good friend of the Arabs and on several occasions voiced his support for the Palestine question, something which the Phalangists reject.

On his recent visit to Moscow, Junblatt said the visit was not related to the recent events but aimed at further deepening the relations of friendship with the USSR.

Junblatt Denies Resignation Call

JN222106 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2030 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Louis Faris Damascus dispatch, carried in the "Panorama" program]

[Text] In a contact with us today, Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, corrected the report in which a Jordanian paper cited him as saying that he calls for the resignation of President Amin al-Jumayyil even if this leads to the destruction of Lebanon. Junblatt said he had neither called for President al-Jumayyil's resignation nor threatened to destroy Lebanon, as disseminated by some reports based on the Jordanian paper. Junblatt indicated that he only said verbatim: Amin al-Jumayyil's current policy may lead to the destruction of Lebanon if his government does not resign.

In another development, the Lebanese National Salvation Front embarked on intensive diplomatic contacts with foreign states and governments via their ambassadors in Damascus to explain the Front's stand toward the new political and security developments. This morning, the Front sent a detailed memorandum to the UN secretary general and the governments of the USSR, the United States, the 10 European states, and the nonaligned states. It briefed them on the developments of the political and security negotiations between the Front and Lebanese Government. The memorandum says that due to the Lebanese Government's disavowal of its Geneva and post-Geneva commitments, the Lebanese crisis returned to its starting point and reached the current deadlock on all levels.

Junblatt Calls for Expanding Geneva Conference

NC220745 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Walid Junblatt has said U.S. envoy Donald Rumsfeld proposed that Syria withdraw from southern Al-Matn to induce an Israeli withdrawal from the south. In an interview published today by the paper *AN-NIDA'*, he said the possibilities of finding a solution are getting smaller and smaller. He said: We might reach a stage in which we will doubt the possibility of achieving a political solution. He stressed his opposition to the formation of a new government before the approval of basic principles of reform through political dialogue. Junblatt called for expanding the Geneva conference to include those not represented at the first Geneva conference.

PSP Assails Phalangist Security Plan Stance

NC220707 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has said the Phalangist leader's comment that the security plan must be implemented by force is a new call for war, which all Lebanese reject. The statement affirmed that peace in Lebanon cannot be imposed by force. It emphasized that the way out of the impasse requires a return to the (?spirit) of the Geneva conference and a serious government initiative to submit a new national charter. The PSP calls on the Christian brothers to rise against the Phalangist leader and those like him to prevent them from continuing to kindle war in Lebanon.

Lebanese NSF Leaders To Meet in Zgharta

JN211112 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Sources close to the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party in Damascus have said that the Lebanese National Salvation Front [NSF] leaders will hold a meeting in the northern Lebanese

town of Zgharta in the next 48 hours. The meeting will deal with the recent Lebanese developments and the adequate means to implement the security plan.

Phalangist Leader Says Situation 'Intolerable'

NC221751 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil says the situation is intolerable and augurs dangers for the homeland. He welcomes a democratic opposition and says: Let all understand that no one can impose anything by force.

Amal Movement's Birri Discusses Current Issues

NC211726 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] At a news conference he held today, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri dealt with some political and security issues. He first spoke of the steadfastness of the southerners and their coexistence. He affirmed that they adhere to Lebanon as a united Lebanon.

Referring to the Islamic summit in Casablanca, he considered the noninclusion of the Lebanese question — specifically the situation in the south — on the agenda as harmful to Lebanese and Islamic interests.

Birri said: Everyone knows that the Amal Movement has no connection with Libya and that Libya's relationship with the Amal Movement can be established by only one person, namely, Imam Musa as-Sadr, upon his return from Libya. Amal's stand stems primarily from the fact that it is Lebanese.

Birri also referred to the danger of the insecurity caused by the kidnappings and assassinations. He called for their discontinuation so as to safeguard the homeland and citizens.

Continuing Reportage on Security Developments

Junblatt Committee Representative Withdraws

NC201320 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Local gunmen and their allies have returned to indiscriminate shelling of residential quarters and peaceful areas. They have expanded the scope of their attacks to include the areas extending from Suq al-Gharb, Khaldah, Kafr Shima, Al-Hadath, Al-Hazimiyah, Al-Fayyadiyah, B'abda, Al-Yarzi, Jumhur, Chevrolet, Damascus Road, Jisr al-Basha, Al-Mukallis, Sinn al-Fil, Al-Ashrafiyah, Mar Mikhayil, and Burj Hammud.

The shelling was particularly concentrated on the town of B'abda, which was subjected to hundreds of artillery rounds and rockets. A short while ago, the indiscriminate shelling reached the areas of Sarba, Juniyah, and Bkirki in Kasrawan District.

The Junblatt forces and Palestinians used long-range field artillery, rocket launchers, and mortars from their military positions in 'Ayn al-Jadidah, Kafr Nabrakh, Majdal Ba'na, Ash-Shuwayfat, 'Alayh, and Duhur al-'Abbadiyah. While the civilian inhabitants were being subjected to indiscriminate shelling, violent clashes with various kinds of weapons were taking place on the axes of Suq al-Gharb, 'Alayh, Qabr Shmun, Khaldah, 'Aramun, Ash-Shuwayfat, and Kafr Shima.

The Lebanese Army Command, which continued to adhere to the cease-fire, was compelled to give instructions to military positions to violently answer sources of fire after Army positions and peaceful civilians were subjected to artillery and rocket bombardment.

A new cease-fire was scheduled to take effect 1415 but the shelling has continued, although it has subsided somewhat in the mountain.

This deterioration followed the threatening statement issued by Walid Junblatt, in which he called for the withdrawal of the Multinational Force from Lebanon. It also followed the withdrawal of Junblatt's representative from the Security Arrangements Committee and the order circulated today to the Junblatt armed positions to suspend all contacts with the Security Arrangements Committee and give a free hand to the artillery emplacements and rocket launchers to shell the areas they want.

The situation further deteriorated by the Palestinian dissidents' participation in shelling operations from their artillery emplacements in Bhamdun, Ra's al-Jabal, Shimlan, and Ash-Shuwayfat.

'Resentment' Increasing Against Junblatt

NC201827 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Today was another day of Syrian and Junblattist violence, causing deaths and destruction in the eastern residential areas of Beirut and the Districts of B'abda, Al-Matn, and Kasrawan. The Lebanese Army positions everywhere came in for their usual share and the Army's response was vigrous, scoring direct hits on the batteries of the Junblattists and their allies. This counterfire of the Army seems to have touched the opposing positions in the depth. According to a communique by the Socialist Party, shells fell on Al-Mukhtarah, B'aqlin, Ba'dharan, 'Alayh, and Bhamdun with 6 fatal casualties admitted and 14 wounded in the ranks of the Junblattists and their allies.

Reports from the Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh indicate that resentment and anger against Walid Junblatt is building up among the Druze. Together with his family, he moves between Damascus and Amman while his community suffers the consequences of the [word indistinct] followed under his orders [words indistinct] for an escalation to embarrass the Lebanese Government and people.

According to the latest security reports, there is relative calm on the fronts after the violence of the late morning and afternoon,

but intermittent shelling and machinegun fire against Lebanese Army positions in the mountain and south of Beirut continue.

VOAL On Casualty Count

NC210650 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpts] According to the latest security reports, cautious calm is now prevailing on all the traditional axes in the mountain, Beirut's southern suburb, and the Al-Kharrub region. However, all possibilities are open in view of the extreme state of alert and preparedness among the fighters. Yesterday witnessed a serious deterioration in the situation. Violent clashes took place on the traditional axes, accompanied by shelling directed against the villages and areas of 'Alayh and the Ash-Shuf, including Al-Mukhtarah and Bin. As a result of these clashes, 10 people were killed and about 50 wounded, according to the latest casualty count. The shelling also caused heavy material damage to the houses and property of peaceful citizens.

Situation 'Calm' in Halba, Takrit

NC210900 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpt] A report from Halba indicates that the Red Knights blew up the house of Walid ar-Ruz, a Syrian Social National Party member, causing material damage. Information indicates that a state of calm is prevailing in Halba and Takrit for the second successive day following the clashes recently witnessed in both areas between Syrian Social National Party members and the Red Knights.

Army Statement on Clashes

NC211001 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0932 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Statement issued on 21 Jan by Army Command Guidance Directorate]

[Text] Since 1000 today, military positions in Suq al-Gharb, Dahr al-Wahsh, B'abda, Al-Fayyadiyah, and populated areas in the B'abda area suddenly came under artillery and rocket fire, which has been continuing since this statement was issued. The Lebanese Army is shelling the sources of fire. It asks citizens to take precautions.

Army Casualties Reported

NC211040 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1027 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] According to the latest information received from the security sources, the artillery fire which was directed at the Lebanese Army positions in Dahr al-Wahsh and Suq al-Gharb at approximately 1135 today caused the martyrdom of two Army corporals and wounding of one soldier. The shelling of the B'abda, Al-Hazimiyah, and Al-Fayyadiyah areas ended at approximately 1130.

Shelling Near U.S. Residence

NC211043 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The clashes are continuing on the mountain axes. The Army positions in Suq al-Gharb, 'Ayn as-Sayyidah, (Bnaqin), Tallat ar-Rus, Al-Qammatiyah, and Dahr al-Wahsh are coming under shelling from the Junblattist, Palestinian, and foreigners' positions in Kayfun, 'Aytat, Majdalayya, Baysur, and 'Alayh.

Rocket launchers and 130-mm heavy artillery have shelled residential areas in Jumhur, Al-Yarzi, B'abda, Al-Fayyadiyah, Al-Hazimiyah, Al-Hadath, Mar Mikha'il, Galerie Sim'an, and Al-Mukallis up to Bayt Miri. The shelling concentrated on the vicinity of the U.S. ambassador's residence in Al-Yarzi. The vicinity of the B'abda Government Hospital was hit. A spokesman for the hospital has denied a report that the hospital received a direct hit.

It has been learned that the shelling hit a number of citizens. According to initial reports, two peoople were slightly wounded in the Al-Hadath area.

'Slight' Damage to Presidential Palace

NC211250 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The indiscriminate shelling which hit residential areas and Lebanese Army positions this morning was concentrated for more than 15 minutes on the Presidential Palace in B'abda, causing slight damage to some of its wings. Nevertheless, the Lebanese Army refrained from returning the fire to give political contacts a chance. However, the shelling continued and intensified, forcing the Army to return fire at 1030 today toward the attacking artillery emplacements; the Army was able to silence some of them.

While the shells suddenly rained on several areas, observers raised questions regarding the purpose of shelling the Presidential Palace at this particular time when the regime is making efforts to take the country out of the ordeal and when the Presidential Palace is being prepared as a place for national meetings on work for the salvation of the country. Was this an attempt to influence political decisions, or was it an attempt to shell the residence of authority, torpedo the regime's efforts, and block the way to any hope for the restoration of calm and stability?

In the first case, it is necessary to affirm that the Lebanese regime will not be forced to make decisions which others are trying to push it to make. In the second case, the Lebanese regime will continue its national salvation efforts to achieve the ultimate objective and establish firm security to spare the lives of citizens, who are falling daily, and spare the Army from facing provocation from any side.

'Guarded' Calm in Mountain, Suburb

NC211815 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Security sources report that guarded calm again prevails this evening on most of the axes in the mountain area and in Beirut's southern suburb. These axes witnessed violent clashes this afternoon.

Hezbollah Gunmen Occupy Houses

NC220833 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Some Hezbollah gunmen in 'Ayn Burday in the Ba'labakk District occupied a number of Christian houses and converted tnem into party offices.

Shelling of Army Positions

NC221236 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Since 1400 the Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Qurs al-Mudawwar have been subjected to artillery shelling and volleys of automatic fire. This was preceded by shellfire against Army positions in Qabr Shmun.

Army Aborts Suburb Infiltration

NC221437 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The security situation in Beirut's southern suburb suffered a setback when gunmen forcefully attempted to infiltrate into buildings adjacent to Old Sidon Road, using rockets and machine guns. A soldier was seriously wounded and three civilians slightly were wounded in the attack. The paratroopers positioned in the Red Shoe and Flour Mills areas immediately clashed with the infiltrators, inflicting grave casualties on them and forcing them to retreat.

Army Positions Under Fire

NC231201 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpt] We have just received the following:

At 1330, the Suq al-Gharb front where Army emplacements are positioned was shelled by mortars. An exchange of mortar and sniper fire also took place btween 'Aytat and Kayfun.

U.S., Israeli Aircraft Overfly Mountain, South

NC220708 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0702 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Security sources reported a short while ago that squadrons of U.S. F-14 aircraft have been flying over Beirut and mountain. The sources also reported that Israeli aircraft are flying at a low altitude over Sidon and other towns in the south.

U.S. Fleet Reportedly Suicide Attack Target

NC221402 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The U.S. 6th Fleet has been placed on a maximum state of alert in the wake of reports that suicide squads intend to blow up U.S. warships off the Lebanese coast by means of gliders and small private planes.

French Contingent Vacates Post in Beirut

NC201719 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Jna 84

[Statement issued by French contingent of Multinational Force on 20 January]

[Text] The French contingent of the Multinational Force this evening vacated the Niqula Bsutrus' house in East Beirut, a post it occupied for 4 months because it provided acceptable conditions. However, this post is located in a densely populated area and the inhabitants did not conceal their concern over their presence near this military post. Therefore, in order to safeguard the safety of the inhabitants, the French command decided to withdraw its paratroopers from that post.

More Reportage on Situation in South

Beirut Updates Situation

NC201240 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] In the south, explosions took place early this morning in Sidon in the areas of 'Ayn al-Hulwah, Al-Fayya'ah, and Al-B'asiri. It has transpired that the explosions were directed against a number of commercial stores.

At 0130 today, intensive bursts of gunfire were heard inside the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp. The reasons for the gunfire are still unknown. The Israeli forces instituted patrols at the approaches of the camp.

Bursts of automatic weapons fire were heard near the Israeli position near the Teachers College, about 500 meters south of the Al-Awwali River. This was followed by a combing operation by Israeli soldiers using automatic weapons; a number of nearby houses were damaged. Local residents reported that the Israeli position came under fire, and the Israelis returned the fire.

The Israeli forces have been running armored patrols on the main Riyad as-Sulh Street in Sidon since morning. The Israeli forces have closed the highway between Sidon and Tyre at Sayniq Bridge since 0900 today, forcing hundreds of vehicles and citizens heading to work to take dirt roads.

Israeli Forces Fired On

NC211257 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] In the south, the Israelis were subjected to two armed attacks — the first in An-Nabatiyah and the second near Sidon. According to information received from the An-Nabatiyah area, unidentified gunmen fired a rocket at an Israeli roadblock at the Kafr Tibnit-Arnun triangle at approximately 0830 today. No casualties have been reported in view of the security cordon laid around the area following the incident.

Near Sidon, fire was opened on an Israeli position from a passing car. A hand grenade was also thrown at the position from the car. A clash ensued between gunmen and Israelis, who later began combingthe area. The Israeli Army spokesman has admitted the attack.

Unidentified Helicopters Overfly Sidon

NC211418 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] A two-propellered military helicopter flew over Sidon at 1515 this afternoon. It was seen flying from north to south at a high altitude. It was accompanied by a smaller helicopter. Security sources could not identify the two helicopters.

Israeli Planes Overfly Al-Biqa'

NC220935 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Following U.S. overflights, a formation of four Israeli planes at 0845 overflew the north and Al-Biqa' before returning to the south and then to Israel.

Israelis Detain Al-Hallusiyah Imam

NC221209 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Since this morning a state of severe tension has prevailed in Al-Hallusiyah Township, southern Lebanon, as a protest against the detention of Imam Shaykh 'Abbas Harb by Israeli occupation forces.

Ihdin Radio Updates Situation

NC230743 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] In the south the confrontation is escalating between the southerners and Israeli occupation forces. While Al-Hallusiyah and neighboring villages are continuing their sit-in for the second successive day, the southern ulema have called for a meeting at Imam as-Sadiq Club in Tyre at 1000 today to confront the Israeli escalation and to call for a sit-in to secure the release of the detained persons, including His Excellence Shaykh Muharram al-'Arifi and Al-Hallusiyah imam His Excellence Shaykh 'Abbas Harb.

Meanwhile, the occupation forces are continuing to surround Al-Hullusiyah and to prevent everyone, including UN forces, from entering or leaving the township, and to cut its water and electricity supplies.

An occupation force yesterday detained over 30 inhabitants of the township and took them by helicopter to an intelligence center in An-Nabatiyah. At the same time, enemy planes carried out mock air raids in the township's airspace. Furthermore, Israeli bulldozers demolished a number of homes including that of Shaykh 'Abbas Harb. The occupation forces also surrounded Shabriha, raided a number of houses, and detained several persons. They also blew up Ibrahim al-Hariri's house in Sidon's Al-Qiya'ah Quarter after raiding the house to detain Al-Hariri, who was not in the house at the time.

TV: U.S. Pressured Islamic Leaders on Egypt

JN201926 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The fourth Islamic summit concluded in Casablanca late last night, in the absence of about half of the ICO's presidents, and issued a host of resolutions. The conference denounced the U.S. air attack on the Syrian forces in Lebanon. It declared that Israel's decision to apply its laws to the occupied Golan Heights in null and illegal. The conference also denounced the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance, stressing that this alliance increases tension and threatens world peace and security.

The Islamic summit reiterated the Islamic states' commitment to the Islamic-Arab character of the occupied city of Jerusalem. The Islamic leaders pledged to work to restore Arab sovereignty over Jerusalem. The conference stressed the need for Israel to withdraw from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the need for the Palestinian people to restore their national rights, including their right to self- determination and to establish their independent state. The conference also emphasized its rejection of all the Israeli measures and legislation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, considering them null and illegal according to international law.

The conferees expressed their concern for Lebanon's full independence, unity, and sovereignty. They expressed deep concern over the continuation of the Israeli occupation of large parts of Lebanon and called for the Israeli forces to immediately withdraw from Lebanon.

It is worth mentioning that the United States exerted great pressure on some presidents and kings of Islamic states in order to peddle some resolutions of interest to the U.S. Administration and its policy in the region. This was evident in their insistence on inviting Egypt into the ICO. The conference actually adopted a resolution in this regard.

Political observers believe that inviting Egypt to resume its ICO membership was conditional on the Egyptian regime's commitment to the ICO's principles, rules, and resolutions, including rejection of the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. The resolution says the Egyptian regime should adopt the necessary measures to implement this commitment.

It should be recalled that the ICO earlier condemned the Camp David accords and their appendices.

Mubarak May Visit Jordan, Iraq in February

JN222035 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — Well informed sources in the Jordanian capital have revealed that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak may pay an official visit to Amman and Baghdad next montb. The sources were cited as saying that Mubarak will hold talks with King Husayn on a Middle East settlement through the participation of Jordan and some Palestinians. In Baghdad, the Egyptian president will reiterate his support for Saddam Husayn's regime in its war against Iran.

These Amman reports confirm other reports of a summit meeting in the near future among Mubarak, Husayn, Saddam, and 'Arafat in order to look into a draft plan to solve the Palestine question.

Commentaries Score U.S. Policy in Region

'Big Stick' in Lebanon

JN201424 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The traditional Lebanese fighting areas witnessed a military escalation during the past few days while talk is continuing about the implementation of a proposed security plan in the mountain area and the southern suburb of Beirut. It seems that the Lebanese situation has returned to the situation that prevailed last fall when military action accompanied political solutions. Perhaps the U.S. warships' shelling of the nationalist forces' positions and the U.S. and French sorties over the capital and the mountain yesterday are indications that the Reagan administration's favorite policy is raising the big stick in the face of those who object to the U.S. and Israeli policy in Lebanon and the region.

The Americans are still clinging to the policy of force despite calm statements some Americans have made regarding the Lebanese situation. However, these statements do not indicate any radical change in the U.S. policy, whether toward Lebanon or the region. President Reagan's administration does not isolate Lebanon from the rest of the states in the region with regard to its Middle East policy in general. Events are interconnected. The arrangements being made in Jordan to enter negotiations with Israel after getting 'Arafat's approval and the encouragement of the regimes supporting the U.S. solutions are not detached from what is taking place in Lebanon or elsewhere in the Arab homeland.

The attempts to heat up the atmosphere in Lebanon have the short-term objective of returning to the method of threatening to use force against Syria and the Lebanese Nationalist Forces. The silent U.S. envoy, Rumsfeld, toured some capitals in the region but refrained from voicing a single word except when he visited occupied Jerusalem, where he announced that the Syrians are still adopting a hard-line stand.

Some people in the U.S. Administration advised President Reagan — and he does not need anyone to advise him — to be more firm. Washington news reports talk about a decisive plan that will be completed within 2 weeks. This plan will define the U.S. Administration's new political trend in dealing with the Lebanese situation and that of the region in general. Syria will be the target of the new plan, according to what the U.S. news media are disseminating.

Washington is still adhering to the policy of force in confronting the unwavering, principled Syrian stands in Lebanon and the region. Despite the fact that Washington used its military and political power against Syria to a certain extent and despite the

fact that it realized the failure of this policy, as *NEWSWEEK* reported, the advocates of military confrontation are still insisting on the use of force in the hope of softening the Syrian stands and peddling their schemes and plans in Lebanon and elsewhere.

Syria was and is still for the unity of Lebanon — land and people. It has sacrificed all that it could for this purpose. Meanwhile, Syria is more eager than others to firmly establish security, stability, and quiet in Lebanon. No security plan will succeed if not approved by all sides and if not preceded by a political accord among the various Lebanese factions. If dialogue through fire has been proved unsuccessful, the quiet and serious dialogue that is based on considering all sides' rights and on justice and equality has not been proved unsuccessful, unless those who seek the help of others want to rekindle the fire in the hope of achieving what they have so far failed to achieve.

If the U.S. Administration is eager — as it claims — to maintain Lebanon's stability, security, and peace, it must keep its hands off this country and abstain from interfering in its internal affairs. Dealing with the Lebanese situation is an Arab responsibility before anything else. Moreover, it is well known that the Lebanese situation became worse after the Israeli invasion and after the U.S. presence, which turned into part of the fighting Lebanese militias supporting one side against another.

The salvation of Lebanon — people and land — can be realized by terminating the Israeli invasion without conditions or restrictions and by withdrawing the U.S. forces. This will give the Lebanese people a chance to deal with their affairs by themselves, away from U.S. and Israeli pressure.

TISHRIN on Husayn's Role

JN211253 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Press review]

[Text] In its editorial under the headline "Balance and Confusion," *TISHRIN* writes: Since Israel invaded Lebanon with U.S. planning and participation, the presence of the U.S. Marines has been part of the U.S. scheme to contain the region and devour its countries. This scheme aims at closing the region so it will remain under the control of U.S. interests. According to this scheme, which was arranged by the White House, the United States will occupy Lebanon with the Marines and then make its move to Jordan, through the Reagan plan — a formula developed from the Camp David accords. During this stage, 'Arafat will enter the liquidation plan so the U.S. Administration can complete its plot on two parallel axes — Lebanon and Jordan — thereby liquidating the cause. With this achievement, President Reagan will once again bargain from the White House.

This scheme is clear, even its details. All the recent events are in harmony with this scheme, including 'Arafat's departure from Beirut and his return to Tripoli and his defeatist, capitulatory, and submissive fall into Mubarak's embrace.

Gentlemen, the problem was not so simple as the U.S. Administration thought. The United States could not arrange the Lebanese community in accordance with its calculations, because Syria was able to turn Lebanon from a winning U.S. card and a great political acheivement into a big political crisis for the Reagan administration, which is looking for an exit to save its prestige. Thus, the U.S. moves in Lebanon and Jordan have been confused, and the required balance has been lost.

Because it has been difficult to solve the Lebanese problem in a way that will serve U.S. interests, it has become crystal clear that the United States will move, or has moved, its main political thrust to Jordan to carry out its liquidation plan on the basis of the Reagan plan and autonomy. This move is unanimously rejected on the Palestinian and Arab levels, especially after 'Arafat became part of the U.S. moves in the Jordanian-Israeli settlement plan — or whatever they care to name it.

At this stage, we can find an explanation for what is taking place in Lebanon regarding the security plan and the agreements which the [Lebanese] authorities made with the nationalist forces and then subsequently relinquished. We can affirm that the United States is the party which rejected implementation of the security plan because its implementation would not be in harmony with the U.S. scheme to arrange Lebanon in accordance with the prepared formula or with the Lebanon that the United States seeks.

TISHRIN continues: Before this difficult situation, which did not give the United States enough room to maneuver, the Lebanese situation was frozen and without any solution — and all non-U.S. solutions were also aborted. The continuation of the current situation will be accepted by U.S. logic since the U.S. solution is impossible to reach. In other words, we believe that at this stage the United States will remove Lebanon from its circle of concentration, neutralize it, and separate it from circles which influence it so Lebanon will not obstruct effective U.S. moves to achieve a U.S. settlement in the Jordanian arena. By this we mean what is taking place in Jordan through the reactionary capitulatory alliance — Mubarak-Husayn-'Arafat-Saddam — on the basis of the Reagan plan.

We can, without any difficulty, disclose the moves and trends of this alliance. King Husayn has clearly declared his objectives and intentions through his direct confortation with the basic pan-Arab principles of Arab policy which has dealt with the Palestine cause for a decade, through cofnrontation with the sole legitimate representation of the Palestinians, through confrontation with Palestinian self-determination, through confrontation with the Arab League Charter, and through the need to change the charter in a way that will serve the U.S. scheme and Husayn's ambitions in the East and West Banks.

The seizure of Palestinian representation means seizure of the Palestinian people's self-determination. In other words, because of 'Arafat's treason and the authorization 'Arafat gave to King Husayn, King Husayn will decide instead of the PLO. King Husayn will decide the Palestinian future — form, substance, and geography — and whether Palestine will be a united kingdom that includes both banks or a Palestine of self-determination in accordance with the Camp David accords and the Reagan plan. In any event, the Palestinian people's future will be decided by Husayn through agreement with the United States and Israel.

What kind of future will it be if it is decided by those parties? This makes us recall the stage of mourning and hypocrtical concern over the Palestinian decisionmaking by 'Arafat, Husayn, and the reactionary regimes involved in the shceme. This makes us recall how Palestinian decisionmaking had been faked for 'Arafat's interest and how it became a decision of a traitor when he prepared to end up in Husayn's embrace.

Therefore, matters were to end in another Camp David which would mean more humiliation for the Palestinians, their rights, and destiny. Thus, it has become obvious that Palestinian self-determination will be a determination of Husayn's fate through his containment of this people's decisionmaking. It will rather be a determination of Amman's fate when the Palestinian people cancel Amman as the capital of the East Bank according to a Palestinian decision.

What an astonishing paradox! Despite all this, they keep on talking about peace, justice, and moderation.

U.S.-Israeli Military Maneuvers

JN201528 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1235 GMT 20 Jan 84

[From the "On the Events" program]

[Text] The U.S.-Israeli joint military command's decision to hold military maneuvers is considered a practical step that precedes aggression against Syria and the entire Arab homeland. It also means a test of the Jordanian rapid deployment force in order to push negotiations to their maximum degree. Our colleague Muhammad Muhalla wrote the following analysis on this subject:

Testing U.S.-Israeli power in light of the strategic alliance and being assured about the Camp David alliance partners' preparedness to perform their well defined roles in anticipated military action against Syria and the Arab homeland in general are among the most important subjects — and even at the head of the priorities — preoccupying the U.S. Administration, the Zionist enemy government, and the tools allied to this administration or that government through the Camp David accords. In view of the importance of this testing and assuring the required combat performance, the U.S.-Israeli joint command decided to hold military maneuvers next week. To be more specific, this command decided to carry out a military exercise which, according to the strategic military framework, should precede any military action.

Diplomatic and political circles in the capitals allied to Camp David emphasized that these multipurpose maneuvers will test the readiness of the forces that are considered the basic body and main power for hostile military action against Syria and the entire Arab homeland. Hence, the Jordanian rapid deployment forces' readiness in terms of numbers and hardware was stressed so that they can carry out the tasks entrusted to them either before or during war operations. Moreover, the positions and tasks of the forces other than the U.S. and Israeli units should be fixed so that the hostile military action will have both integrated implementation and integrated planning.

According to the plans of both Washington and Tel Aviv, this is how the alliance partners can impose the U.S. settlement on the ground. This means that the military alternative is given priority over all other alternatives and that the U.S. Administration is moving ahead toward implementing the Israeli decision against the Arab homeland. Because the U.S. Administration adopts military action as a policy toward any move, the Americans announced the decision to hold joint military maneuvers with the Israeli forces under the heading of testing the arrangements that allow their forces to use hospitals and medical facilities in Israel.

In the same announcement, Washington stressed the importance of the Jordanian rapid deployment forces. Therefore, Israel welcomed King Husayn's measures toward direct negotiations with Israel. Shamir said that peace with Jordan is coming. Peace in the Israeli concept is the peace that the Israeli ambassador in Paris meant when he said that Israel supports negotiations with Jordan. In the meantime, he rejected any formula that does not take the Camp David accords into account. This means that the background of direct negotiations between King Husayn, who was authorized by Yasir 'Arafat, and Israel is that of the capitulatory agreements that are well known as the Camp David accords. As a result of all this, Chaim Herzog, president of the Zionist entity, said when he met with the Zairian president in Kinshasa that there is a state of peace between Israel and Jordan.

In light of Israel's assertions, King Husayn's measures as well as the U.S. Administration's determination to implement the Israeli decision against the Arab homeland confirm a number of facts. First, the U.S.-Israeli joint military command's decision to hold military maneuvers is only a step that precedes aggression against Syria. The second fact is that King Husayn's forces have an important role in this military exercise and in the U.S.-Israeli aggression. The third fact is that the Reagan administration intends to use the escalation of military action and tension to achieve electoral gains in the U.S. arena. The fourth fact is that Israel will not relinquish the policy of annexation and containment. Its negotiations with King Husayn aim at making the latter play the role drawn up for him in the service of Israel's general plan against the Arab countries.

Assembly Speaker Leaves for APU Meetings

JN221305 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpt] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi left Damascus this morning at the head of a delegation to attend the 14th session of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU] to be held in San'a' 22-25 January. He was seen off by several comrade leaders of party branches and popular organizations in Damascus as well as a number of People's Assembly members.

Ministers Agree on Defense, Education Budget Cuts

TA221403 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1356 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The prime minister and the Likud ministers have decided to cut 12 billion shekels from the defense budget to conform with the Treasury's demand. It was also decided to carry out almost all the cuts required from the Education Ministry's budget. Our correspondent reports from the prime minister's office that the Cabinet session is due to begin shortly and this agreement is expected to be approved without any further difficulties.

Cabinet Approves Budget Cuts

TA221717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The Cabinet has approved the framework of the cuts in the state budget concluded by the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs 2 weeks ago with several minor amendments. The full cut in the defense budget was approved, and a compromise proposal was formulated which will be suggested to the Ministry of Education.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi told our correspondent Gadi Sukenik that all the ministers supported the decision. The ministers listened to Defense Minister Arens's explanations about the significance of the cut, namely, that it will call for a reduction in the IDF forces. Nevertheless, the ministers decided to effect the cut. David Levi added that the budget cuts were the most important thing and that the Cabinet would in the next few days contemplate a series of decisions which would lead to a comprehensive economic program.

Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad has expressed his satisfaction with the decision.

Further on Cabinet Session

TA221841 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpt] At a session this morning, the Cabinet continued its discussion of the Ben-Porat report on solving the Palestinian refugee problem. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that funding and legal questions involved would be examined. A senior Israeli official noted today that Jordan's King Husayn has opposed the idea of permanently settling the Palestinian refugees in Judaea and Samaria. Husayn said they should be settled in their original homes. The Israeli official said this showed there was no correlation between an agreement over Judaea and Samaria and a solution to the refugee problem. Reporter David Essing adds that the Cabinet also discussed the enforcement of law and order in the territories. A three-man committee made up of defense, justice and interior ministers presented a paper setting out guidelines. Our reporter says its key points are that the law must apply equally to Arab and Jew and that residents have the right of self-defense but there must be no retaliation. Law enforcement must be the sole prerogative of the authorities.

The discussion is to continue, the goal being a declaration of law enforcement policy in the territories.

Details on Defense Cuts

TA222022 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] At the end of the Cabinet session, sources in the Defense Ministry said that about 13 percent would be cut from the defense budget for the upcoming year, about 2 percent more than the cut decided upon last summer. The cut will amount to $650 million. Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky reports that the breakdown of this sum is as follows: $300 million will be cut from the U.S. defense aid; $250 million will be cut from the U.S. aid converted into shekels; and another $100 million will be cut in accordance with the decision made by the Cabinet this evening following the harsh argument between Minister Arens and Minister Kohen-Orgad.

The defense minister said that he accepts the steep cut with regret but he understands the economic situation. According to Arens, the IDF will have to curb its growth, to reduce units [misgarot] and reduce purchases both from foreign sources and the military industries.

Shamir, Arens Threatened Resignation

TA222002 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The prime minister threatened to go to the president, and the defense minister threatened to resign. However, following sharp verbal exchanges in the meeting of the Likud ministers, the latter returned to the Cabinet session and unanimously voted in favor of the budget cuts. Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports from the broadcasting van outside the Finance Ministry in Jerusalem:

[Ronen] Sharp verbal exchanges between the prime minister, the defense minister, and the finance minister emerged in the meeting they held this morning, prior to the Cabinet session. The Cabinet session which had been scheduled to begin at 0900 this morning was postponed for 1 hour due to the difficult meeting between Shamir, Arens, and Kohen-Orgad. The prime minister decided to first of all establish order in his own backyard, among the Herut ministers, and later among the Likud ministers. That is the reason the prime minister decided not to discuss the budget in this morning's Cabinet session but rather to hold another Cabinet meeting only when full agreement had been achieved between the defense and finance ministers.

In the interval between this morning's and this afternoon's Cabinet sessions, Shamir made it plain to his Likud colleagues that the budget cuts must be concluded and approved today and that any debate over them should not be dragged out for even 1 day. Shamir added: The Cabinet must have a vote of confidence by the Knesset on Wednesday with regard to a unanimously approved reduced budget. The finance and defense ministers tried to win over the other to their own side while exchanging mutual threats and threatening the prime minister. It seems that the prime minister's determined stand ultimately led to the unanimous decision. Deputy Prime Minister David Levi tried to help settle the dispute between Arens and Kohen-Orgad.

Even after a decision on the budget cuts was made, some ministers doubted that the cuts would remedy the economic situation. With an annual inflation of 200 percent, several ministers said, there is hardly any significance to even a relatively large cut of 58 billion shekels.

Kohen-Orgad on Cuts

TA222010 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Interview with Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad by economic affairs correspondent Hayim Plattner "a few minutes ago" at the former's office — recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Minister, is today's Cabinet decision actually the final word on the budget cuts?

[Answer] The decision made by the Cabinet today constitutes the end of the stage of establishing a ceiling on the reduced budgets of the various ministries. The total budget was accumulatively reduced from August to the present day by some 130 billion shekels. This is a serious but necessary cut. From now on, we will begin the stage of specifically deciding with each ministry the fields of activity which will be affected by the cuts; and, what is more important, we will meticulously follow up the implementation of the reduced budget in the course of 1984.

[Question] The feeling is that this goal was not easily achieved; in fact, the prime minister threatened to resign during your meeting if a decision in favor of a cut was not passed.

[Answer] I am not aware of any such thoughts on the part of the prime minister. However, it is clear that this was not an easy decision because it was binding on the various ministries and diverse fields, and because it forced us to contemplate a change in the level of public expenditures. The accumulated cut of some 130 billion shekels is a stiff reduction which was called for by the current circumstances. Therefore, various difficulties obviously emerged on this issue.

[Question] During the meeting, the defense minister cautioned about the gravity of the cut in the defense budget and he even said that he would resign if the proposed cut were accepted. The question is whether you are ready to assume responsibility for what will happen in the defense establishment in the aftermath of the cut in the defense budget.

[Answer] I have no comment on your statement on the defense minister's threats. However, as to the question itself, we are collectively responsible for the budget cuts and their implications in the various fields — health, education, and defense. There is no doubt whatsoever that budget cuts raise the levels of risk, in this case in the field of defense. These are necessary cuts in the present circumstances; and all of us must assume responsibility for them — and we are all aware of this.

[Question] Mr Minister, what will be the implications of the cuts for the man in the street? Perhaps we can go over each item, beginning with the issue of education.

[Answer] The implications for the man in the street is that he will enjoy fewer services in the formal education system which up till now have been free. This change especially affects that part of the population which is relatively well off.

Shamir Interviewed on Political, Domestic Issues

TA210917 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0805 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by correspondents Yosi 'Abadi and Yitzhaq Ben-Ner on 19 January, place not given, as part of the "In the Current Situation" program — recorded]

[Text] [Ben-Ner] Mr Prime Minister, it looks as though it is impossible to interview you without again asking you about the most disturbing issue: the IDF's stay in Lebanon. Do you, Mr Prime Minister, think the conditions are being created in southern Lebanon that will allow the IDF to leave the area in the course of the coming year?

[Shamir] This is our policy. The purpose of our activities and our political and other efforts in Lebanon at present is to reach security arrangements that will guarantee peace for the Galilee without the need to maintain an Israeli military presence in Lebanon.

[Ben-Ner] Are the conditions for this really nearing such a state of affairs?

[Shamir] I hope we are nearing this goal. I cannot tell when it will happen, but we are getting closer to it.

['Abadi] What are the conditions we are looking for?

[Shamir] Security arrangements, so that we will be able to maintain security — or that security will be maintained, if not by us then with our help by others — so that we have a guarantee that terrorist forces will not return to the vicinity of the border and endanger the well-being of the inhabitants of northern Israel.

['Abadi] Is there a future for the force headed by Haddad in those arrangements?

[Shamir] We believe so. Such a force, or a force like it, will have to share a substantial part of the responsibility for safety in the border area.

['Abadi] What other forces would satisfy Israel?

[Shamir] There are a variety of ideas about this; there are all sorts of plans I would not suggest elaborating on today. However, the main force — in our opinion — that will deal with this mission will be the territorial brigade, as it is called in the agreement with Lebanon, and the nucleus of that brigade will be Haddad's force.

['Abadi] And will it be able to combat the terrorists, if they should want to return to that area?

[Shamir] I do not know whether or not the terrorists will return to that area. It depends on the situation and conditions that will

prevail over all southern Lebanon. It will also depend on other arrangements that will entail a certain degree of cooperation between us and that force, and the Lebanese Administration.

[Ben-Ner] Mr Prime Minister, does the fact that the United States was unsuccessful in conducting talks with Syria in the meetings that took place —or at least it appeared as though it was unable to reach any sort of agreement —freeze the situation as it exists in southern Lebanon from our standpoint?

[Shamir] It is difficult, at this point, to talk about a freeze in the situation. I do not think the situation could be frozen, because we are active there, and we will make sure that the situation improves in our favor. It is likewise premature to say that the United States has failed in all of its political contacts with Syria and elements in Lebanon. These efforts are continuing.

['Abadi] How do you regard Minister Ari'el Sharon's proposal to leave only 600 IDF soldiers in key positions in Lebanon?

[Shamir] I have not heard about such a plan, and I do not know its details.

[Ben-Ner] With your permission, let us move on to the government issue. Under the current predicament, with TAMI periodically threatening to withdraw, with Agudat Yisra'el presenting its own demands, with part of the Liberal Party partners submitting motions that are unpleasant to the government, with Minister Sharon absenting himself from crucial votes, and more: Do you have doubts about the coalition's survivability, or the length of its survival?

[Shamir] It is impossible to ignore the difficulties with which the coalition is faced at present. In fact, it has always had to combat a variety of problems along with other difficulties presented by its various components — this in general is the nature of every coalition, particularly one that does not enjoy a broad basis. I think we will overcome the difficulties.

['Abadi] How seriously do you regard phenomena like Minister Sharon's absence from Knesset votes last week?

[Shamir] I think no one can expect me to react to actions or statements made by Cabinet members, to the media. What I have to tell them I will tell them personally.

[Ben-Ner] Do you think this phenomenon will continue?

[Shamir] What phenomenon?

[Ben-Ner] When a minister is absent from votes that, from the Cabinet's standpoint, are crucial?

[Shamir] Normally this is undersirable. All the coalition members should be present for votes — ministers and Knesset members alike — and certainly it is not desirable that someone be absent.

[Ben-Ner] Is handling these internal government problems not actually handicapping its functioning at a time when it should, perhaps more than ever, constantly make important decisions?

[Shamir] These difficulties are not hampering, or preventing, any government activity, either in the security sphere, the political field, or even the economic plane. The government is acting and functioning, and things that need to be done are being done. Clearly, coalition difficulties are not helping, but this is part of political life in Israel.

['Abadi] Do you not regard the current coalition problems as something extraordinary compared to such phenomena in the past?

[Shamir] I do not think this is extraordinary. Such things have happened. In the life of every coalition there are fewer — or more —difficult moments that have to be faced and tackled, and overcome.

['Abadi] Are the coalition partners not taking advantage of the fact that these are your first days in the post of prime minister to try to score additional achievements and get further slices of the coalition pie?

[Shamir] This has nothing to do with the number of days during which I have served as prime minister. There are objectively difficult problems with which we are struggling, and as a result all sorts of difficulties arise in the coalition sphere as well, and certain positions are being adopted by the different components. Yet, as I said, I am convinced we will overcome them.

[Ben-Ner] Sir, putting on the shoes of the prime minister — and my question may be a bit personal, but I hope it will still be answered — donning the cloak of the prime minister not only in a particularly difficult period, but also following such a charismatic prime minister, blessed with such a talent for rhetoric and a highly controversial person on both sides — is this especially difficult for you, personally?

[Shamir] Usually, assuming the post of prime minister anywhere in the world, and certainly in Israel, is not one of the easiest chapters in one's life, even in the life of a man experienced with trying times. No doubt it is not easy or simple to fill the place of Menahem Begin, and certainly it is not easy when we are faced with serious problems in various spheres. However, I have the feeling that despite these difficulties, we are combatting them.

['Abadi] Did you possibly expect a greater degree of cooperation on the part of your fellow ministers in light of these circumstances — the combination of the country's predicament and the personnel reshuffle?

[Shamir] I always expect full cooperation from members of a certain collective, particularly a collective like the Cabinet, and I am by nature a team man. I want, am ready, and like to work with a group of people. I also hope that this atmosphere of working together, and walking side by side out of total identification with the shared goals, will be created and will prevail in the government.

[Ben-Ner] In any case, do you not sense what was said prior to Mr Begin's departure from his post, that the next Cabinet, headed by Mr Shamir, will pretty certainly be an interim Cabi-

net? Do you not feel, judging by the conduct of your partners, that they actually think so?

[Shamir] In general, this entire personal factor is not at all important to me. Every government has missions to fulfill, has a job entrusted to it, which it must do. What is an interim government? There is no perennial government; every government, if you wish, is an interim government, by virtue of its ending its term. The question is how long it lasts. But this too is not the main question. The question is whether or not it will fulfill its job. This is the question. I hope the government I was given the post of heading will do what it is supposed to do.

['Abadi] Is it possible, in such a situation, to handle and resolve such heavy-duty missions as improving the economic situation, for example? After all — as some of the ministers actually said — this merits serious economic measures that could conceivably lead to unemployment and difficult results, possibly even a change of government. Are you still optimistic regarding the chances of achieving these results, even when such a situation exists regarding the coalition partners?

[Shamir] Overcoming the economic difficulties, after all, is presently the Cabinet's primary mission. It is obligated; it must do this. If it fails, it will not be able to correct things and fulfill its job. Therefore, there is no doubt in my mind that we will make the utmost effort to find solutions to the economic problems we are facing and combatting. Naturally, I believe in the justness of the course we have begun to take in order to resolve these problems. I am likwise convinced that we will succeed.

[Ben-Ner] Let us move on to the issues themselves. One of them is the economic issue. Possibly what you, too, were greatly occupied with last week was the publication issued by the National Insurance Institute. As far as it was reported in the media, you opposed and were annoyed by this publication, which reported that some 500,000 Israelis live under the poverty line?

[Shamir] I was not upset by the figures, but I was angered by the fact that this report does not reflect the true situation. So why depress our public over figures that are incorrect? The real situation is that the standard of living of the weaker strata in Israeli society is currently far better and higher than their predicament 5, 6, or 7 years ago. Everyone in Israel knows it; and all the experts in these areas are well aware of this. I was deeply sorry about the grief and anguish caused to the Israeli viewers and readers — and both you and I know that there is great sensitivity in Israel to this issue. None of us wants such a high percentage of Israeli citizens to live in poverty. We are glad, and always have been, that we have reached the stage where there are not many people living in poverty. Yet all of a sudden the people who issued the report come and tell us tha this is not so, because of some arithmetical trickery or formulas that do not reflect the true state of affairs.

['Abadi] Do you think there may have been some political motives behind that publication?

[Shamir] This is not my concern; what I care about is to have the Israeli public realize that this is not the situation. It is necessary for everyone in Israel to know that for the past 6 or 7 years a marked and progressive improvement has occurred in the predicament of the weaker strata of our citizenry. What has happened over the past few months, the special difficulties we have been experiencing, should not distort the fundamental situation that permanently exists, and which has existed throughout the past years as well.

[Ben-Ner] Yet it appears that the welfare offices are getting people —I heard people testify to this on television and on the radio yesterday —who did not use to come to them before —such as breadwinners and working people who are now unable to maintain their families. The question is whether this is not truly a worse state of affairs?

[Shamir] I cannot argue over facts that have not been proved. There is a possibility that there are a few hundred more needy families than a few months ago. There may be families that have been hard hit because of inflation which rose last month. But after all, we are doing everything in our power to curb that rise in prices so as to reach stability and calm, and I hope and believe that we will really reach such a situation as soon as possible, and it will stabilize.

['Abadi] Do the current enforced steps not mean that the condition of part of the weaker strata will be set back, many years back, to beyond the 1981 standard of living that was mentioned?

[Shamir] I do not think so. What we are actually saying is real, and is being said with all honesty and sincerity: The Israeli economy currently needs, and it is absolutely essential, to experience a certain drop in consumption, both public and private. This does not have to be a drastic move, but it must be done as we said: A return to the 1981 standard of living. This is nothing frightening at all. We have all experienced it; we lived then, and did not live badly at all. Therefore there is no need to portray a black picture, or exaggerate, or frighten the viewers with pictures of a worker's paycheck that is subsequently found to be completely counterfeit.

['Abadi] But we did not have a 9-percent rate of unemployment in 1981?

[Shamir] Unemployment? Where is there unemployment?

['Abadi] People have been talking about this being the end result?

[Shamir] There is no unemployment in Israel now. There is minimal unemployment.

[Ben-Ner] Do you think we will have unemployment in the future?

[Shamir] No, we will not, because we cannot tolerate unemployment. We will not permit unemployment to exist. It may be that as a consequence of the changes that have to take place in the structure of the Israeli economy, some strata —or rather some groups —might have to undergo retraining and make a transition from one profession to another. Thus, for a certain period of time, pockets of unemployment may be created here and there, perhaps in faraway, isolated places, where the mobility of the workers is difficult. We will then treat these pockets and eliminate them.

After all, everyone knows that to the same extent that there is some degree of unemployment here and there, there is on the other hand a demand for labor, and it is not satisfied. Let us not forget that.

[Ben-Ner] Yet there is the feeling, it seems, that in this economic process of tightening the belt, those who actually pay the heaviest price are the salaried breadwinners, and that not enough action is being taken in the other spheres, such as combatting black market capital?

[Shamir] This argument is heard constantly. When one talks about halting the pay level, or the price level, the eternal complaint is that the salaried worker is the main sufferer because this strata is usually the majority of the population. But in this case the Cabinet is doing everything in its power to have all strata share the burden, and to have the load shouldered primarily by the richer people, the people stronger in the economic sense. Moreover, there are indications of this: Imports have been cut, and there has been a decrease in imports over the past few months, which means that the level of consumption of none other than the rich strata is being affected. If we look at the past month, December, we see that imports have been cut and exports have grown — this is the proof.

['Abadi] Mr Prime Minister, to sum up all the problems we have raised: Do you think the Cabinet will reach the 1985 election date?

[Shamir] I hope so, and most of all I hope that in the period during which we are expected to serve, we will be able to face the problems and overcome them, and put our economy on a positive path that will lead to improvement, healing, and regrowth.

DPA: Shamir Discusses Kohl's Upcoming Visit
LD201403 Hamburg DPA in German 1150 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Jerusalem 20 Jan (DPA) — Despite the "critical question" of FRG arms supplies to Saudi Arabia, Israel will receive Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl "in friendship and with all due honor." The chancellor has made it clear that he is personally interested in good relations with Israel, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said today in a DPA interview in Jerusalem.

Kohl will arrive in Israel next Tuesday on a 6-day visit, the second federal chancellor to visit the country. Willy Brandt visited Israel in 1973.

Calmly and without any sharpness in tone, Shamir said that thoughts about supplying Saudi Arabia with FRG weapons would "undoubtedly be talked about" during his discussions with Kohl.

Shamir declined to answer the question of how Israel assessed the federal government's decision to exclude the ultra-modern Leopard II tank from possible arms supplies to the Saudis. He said basically, it was a matter of Arab states which do not have friendly relations with Israel not receiving any weapons. "We also believe that Germany, because of its historical responsibility, should not sell weapons to Arab states which could use these weapons against the Jewish state," he said. He hoped to be able to change the chancellor's mind on this matter.

Shamir described Israel's relations with the European Community and the United States as "very good." This in no way contradicts differences of opinion, such as the assessment of the EC Venice resolution on the Middle East.

The Federal Republic, "one of the most important members of the community", was not one of the "most extreme" advocates of the resolution. German negotiators should work to see that the community "undertakes nothing that could harm Israel."

Regarding international criticism, shared by Bonn, of the Jewish settlement of the occupied Palestinian Jordan West Bank and Gaza Strip, Shamir expressed lack of understanding. "We do not understand how anyone can speak against our right to live everywhere in the (biblical) land of Israel...just as we have the right to live in Hamburg or Frankfurt," he said. Even a temporary halt to settlement, perhaps as a sign of good will to assist the start of negotiations, is out of the question "because it would be interpreted as us wanting to renounce our right, our claim to this region."

Israel remained prepared, on the basis of the Camp David Middle East accords, to continue negotiations conducted with Egypt and the United States on autonomy for the occupied territories.

International pressure on Egypt and Jordan and the realization that no other realistic agreement exists on this question must make it possible to renew the autonomy talks, he said Egypt, which had interrupted these negotiations more than 2 years ago, is "daily making new conditions" for a resumption in which there was never any mention of the Camp David accords.

On the recent convening of the Jordanian Parliament for the first time in 10 years, including the participation of Palestinians from the Jordan West Bank, Shamir said that this was a welcome move if by it Amman wanted to express its readiness to take part in the negotiations on the basis of Camp David. Instead, he said it appears King Husayn is aiming for cooperation with the PLO.

"Jordan must decide whether it wants friendly relations with us or with the PLO," he said.

Discussing the Lebanon conflict, Shamir said that Syria, too, seemed at present not to be interested in a new war, but was refusing to take up Israel's offer of unconditional negotiations. In Israel, there was a "national consensus" that its own soldiers should leave Lebanon "as soon as a security settlement for the north of our country has been reached."

Shamir indicated, however, that that his government could move away from its original demand that the Israeli and Syrian troops should be withdrawn from Lebanon simultaneously. In this connection, he spoke of an "international agreement" on the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, making only the specific demand that the Syrian forces in the country must not be stationed near the Israeli frontier.

Lebanese Leader Confers With Prime Minister

TA231117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 23 jan 84

[Excerpts] Israel must not withdraw from southern Lebanon before the Syrians and the terrorists do, the head of the Lebanese "Guardians of the Cedars" in Lebanon, Etienne Sakr, said this morning.

Those remarks were made in a conversation with our French-language program correspondent, Mordekhay Shoshan, after Sakr met in Jerusalem with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. The guest said he had pleaded with the prime minister lest Israel forsake Lebanon to the Syrians. This afternoon Sakr is to meet with Defense Minister Moshe Arens as well.

IDF To Start Bus Transportation Over Al-Awwali

TA231133 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The IDF will, in the next few days, begin transporting pedestrians crossing the Al-Awwali River bridges by buses. To date traffic in both directions was on foot. Also, it is still possible to cross the bridge [singular as heard] from north to south with private vehicles. The purpose of transporting people by bus, which may be implemented as soon as this week, is to improve traveler's comfort and the safety of the soldiers guarding the bridge.

Two Bomb Incidents Reported in Lebanon 22, 23 Jan

TA231110 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1021 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] This morning IDF soldiers discovered and detonated a large bomb along the Lebanese coastal road north of the Az-Zahrani River. The bomb weighed 20 kg, and was defused without causing any damage. Our correspondent Yraon Deqel reports from Lebanon that last night another bomb exploded near the village of Jwayya north of Tyre. No one was hurt in that incident.

Government Told of U.S.-Planned Jordanian Task Force

TA221416 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 22 Jan 84 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Ilan Kfir]

[Text] A senior U.S. envoy has notified Israel about the intention to establish the special Jordanian task force for rapid deployment in the Persian Gulf area. The U.S. envoy was Under Secretary of State for Security Assistance, Science and Technology William Schneider. Israel has not yet lifted its official opposition to the establishment of the force and this issue will be discussed at length in the bilateral talks on joint strategic policy. Israel has sought clarifications from the U.S. Administration about the nature of the force's missions and equipment and has been urging an official U.S.-Jordanian declaration that the force would under no circumstances be used against Israeli targets.

Jordan Urged To Open Negotiations With Israel

TA211946 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] The spokesman of the Village Leagues in Judaea and Samaria, Justice Tahsin Mansur, today called on Jordan to open direct negotiations with Israel without any preconditions. He also appealed to the PLO to lay down its arms and to work for a peaceful solution of the Palestinian problem. Justice Mansur called on Jordan to cooperate with the Village Leagues and with moderate bodies in the territories. He made these remarks during a visit by a delegation of the Village Leagues in the village of Yirka in the Galilee.

Supreme Court Ratifies Yeshiva Demolition Order

TA221413 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The demolition order against the illegal building in the Birkat Avraham Yeshiva in the Muslim quarter of the old city of Jerusalem has been ratified. President of the Supreme Court of Justice Me'ir Shamgar rejected the yeshiva's request to allow it to appeal the decision of the district court. Among other things, Justice Shamgar says in his decision that illegal building is among the major phenomena that stand in the way of enforcing the law. In Justice Shamgar's opinion there is nothing wrong in the decision of the lower courts to prevent establishments which are illegal in nature.

No Israeli Participation in Cairo Book Fair

TA221011 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Israel will not be able to participate in the Cairo international book fair that is to open tomorrow. The organizers have put forward a technical excuse, that the number of stands is insufficient, despite the fact that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry had approved the participation of a group of publishers from Israel. An official in the Israeli Embassy in Cairo has expressed dissatisfaction at the fact that this is the 2d year in a row that the Egyptians have prevented Israel's participation in the fair.

FAO: Despite Increased Aid, 150 Million Face Famine
AB191315 Paris AFP in English 0753 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Nairobi, Jan 19 (AFP) — Famine threatens about 150 million people in 24 African countries largely because of an 8 percent drop in grain production last year, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said in a report released here today.

Guinea-Bissau and Upper Volta joined the previous FAO list of 22 countries in west, east and southern Africa "beset for up to 2 years ... by food shortages stemming from drought, livestock diseases, pests and ... civil strife," the report indicated.

Despite a tripling of food pledges to 1.75 million tons since September last year, the continent still suffers from a food aid gap of 1.6 million tons of cereals, the FAO said.

Ghana, Mali, Senegal, Somalia, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Zambia are faced with the most dire food shortages totalling 1.3 million tons of grain, despite substantial quantities of international aid already received or in the pipeline, the FAO said.

For most of the other countries, the needed food exists only on paper, prompting FAO to appeal for a speeding up of food shipments, especially to east and west Africa where agricultural aid is indispensable for the planting season in April and May.

Nearly 100 million dollars are needed to "rehabilitate food crop and livestock production, for post emergency measures and preparation against possible future calamities," according to FAO.

Senegal faces the most severe food shortage, even when taking into account food aid pledges made at the beginning of January.

"The 1983 growing season has been the worst for many years. Poor crop conditions prevailed in all but the most productive areas of the south. Estimated total 1983 cereal production: some 35 percent below average production of the past 5 years," FAO said.

In the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia and Somalia each need about 200,000 tons of grain, although Ethiopia's "1983 main season crop was on the whole more favorable than in the previous year" except in northern Wollo, Tigray and Eritrea Provinces, FAO said.

Irregular rains in Somalia virtually wiped out sorghum harvests for the past two years, FAO said.

Ghana's food shortages are expected to worsen this year, after a 14 percent drop in the 1983 harvest caused by devastating brush fires in grain regions during the past two years, FAO said.

Ghana needs 200,000 tons of grain to avoid famine, FAO added.

Mali needs 122,000 tons of grain to prevent starvation after suffering last year one of the worst harvests ever recorded because or irregular and insufficient rainfall.

The Malian harvest was 30 percent lower than that of 1978 -1979, FAO said.

In Mozambique, "the worst drought in many decades has caused almost complete failure of the 1983 main season crops. Early indications are that the current serious food situation will persist in the 1984-85 season and large scale food assistance will continue to be required even after the next harvest," FAO said.

FAO said that Zambia's prospects for the 1984 crop are "uncertain" after drought in early 1983 affected large areas of the country for the second straight year.

Drought was the major but not the only cause of Africa's food shortages, FAO said.

In Angola, the weather was normal, but "war continued to disrupt crop production."

In Tanzania, rainfall was sufficient but lack of fuel, vehicles and spare parts prevented adequate food distribution, FAO said.

OAU Defense Commission Meeting To Open 23 Jan
AB201035 Accra Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] A 15-member delegation from the OAU Secretariat led by the director of (?Political) Department, Mr Frank Ijenga, is in Accra to attend the OAU Defense Commission meeting which opens on Monday [23 January]. Speaking to newsmen on arrival the chief of defense and security of the OAU Secretariat, Major Zuna Gustave, said the OAU attaches great importance to the conference which will, among other things, discuss a draft protocol establishing an African defense force, peace-keeping operations and the adoptation of a common curriculum in African military training schools. The situation in southern Africa will also be tackled. According to conference sources the acting OAU secretary general, Dr Peter Onu, will arrive in Accra tomorrow for the conference.

ALGERIA

Tunisia's Bourguiba, Delegation End Visit

LD201228 Algiers Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The friendly working visit to Algeria by President Habib Bourguiba, accompanied by a large delegation, ended last night.

During the visit, Presidents Chadli Bendjedid and Habib Bourguiba reviewed bilateral issues of mutual interest and the situation in the region and in the Arab world. On his arrival, President Bourguiba stressed the excellent state of Algerian-Tunisian relations and their importance to both sides, as well as to the greater Arab Maghreb.

Parliamentary Delegation To Visit YAR

LD201521 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] An Algerian parliamentary delegation is leaving Algiers today for San'a in the Yemen Arab Republic. Led by the deputy chairman of the National People's Assembly, (Abderrahman Belayat), it will participate in the work of the 14th session of the Arab Parliamentary Union council, a session which will discuss, among other things, the Palestinian problem, the situation in Lebanon and the Iraq-Iran war.

LIBYA

Envoy Attacked, Shot in Rome 21 January

'Arafat Supporters Blamed

LD212059 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Tripoli, 21 Jan (JANA) — 'Ammar at-Taqqazi, secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Rome, was the target of an attempted assassination when he was fired upon by unidentified assailants at noon today outside his residence in the Italian capital.

It is generally believed in political circles in Rome that elements of the wing of Yasir 'Arafat are behind the attempted assassination of the brother secretary of the People's Bureau. A number of pro-Yasir 'Arafat officials recently made threats to hunt down Libyans in people's bureaus and fraternity bureaus and Libyan interests abroad. Also, 'Arafat himself on 22 May last year, during a rally held at a Palestinian camp near Tripoli, northern Lebanon, made a threat when he said: "We will not sleep on an injustice. We will take revenge because Al-Qadhdhafi is supporting the new movement in Fatah."

Previous information has shown the existence of two suicide squads belonging to Yasir 'Arafat in the capital of Cyprus. They were prepared to carry out subversive activity against the interests of the Jamahiriyah and Syria in a number of Arab and European capitals.

This information had shown that there was a zero hour for these two and other suicide squads to carry out attacks in some states against the people's bureaus and Syrian embassies. Some groups were sent with the knowledge of Yasir 'Arafat to collect information about people's bureaus and Syrian embassies prior to raiding them and obtaining a number of hostages as a bargaining chip.

Further Reportage

For ANSA and Vienna reportage on the attack on Libyan envoy to Italy 'Ammar at-Taqqazi in Rome, including reports on his condition and the group claiming responsibility, see the Italy and the Vatican section of the 23 January Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*, and subsequent issues.

JANA Editor Condemns Shooting of Diplomat

LD230419 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] JANA's political editor commented on the criminal attempt to assassinate the secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Rome yesterday, saying:

May the Arabs and their governments and rulers enjoy long life. The hour for liberating Palestine has struck. Their armies, which at this hour are pounding the gates of the Holy Land, are near victory. All this has happened merely as a result of opening fire on a Libyan citizen, namely 'Ammar at-Taqqazi, who was no more than one of the Libyan people who, like the rest of Libyan men and women, championed the Palestinian cause and refused to capitulate and submit.

This attack — which happened to the secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Rome — has shaken the foundations of the Zionist entity [as heard] in the same way as does a booby-trapped vehicle in the hands of the enemies of the imperialists, Zionists and reactionaries, driven to one of the barracks of the Zionist occupation armies in south Lebanon, and used to demolish the headquarters of the enemy's military command and kill scores of his personnel; in the same way as a bomb thrown in the streets of Jerusalem at Zionist colonialists who usurped the land and made the Palestinian people destitute.

What heroism! It reached the level of the fedayeen action and the suicide operations which made the Zionists go through the worst. It was an incident for which a party calling itself The Volcano claimed responsibility. The incident had repercussions no less resounding than those caused by fedayeen heroism.

So this is it — a Volcano, but against whom? Against the Zionists or against the attempts of U.S. domination? Is this now the bullets are directed? Against individuals of the Libyan people who gave and still give money, arms, martyrs and continuous principled political stands to the cause of liberating Palestine? But the time of Arab setbacks and misfortunes makes one laugh. This is how the Libyan Arab people are rewarded.

The enemy is rewarded by capitulation and the Libyans are rewarded in this fashion. Did we say that this incident against a

Libyan has opened the gate of the liberation of Palestine so that the Arab nation may live long? Have bullets shot down the planes of the invaders, destroyed their nuclear reactor in Dimona, restored the West Bank and the Gaza sector, avenged the martyrs of Sabra and Shatila and liberated Jaffa and Haifa, Hebron, Negev and Tel Aviv? Alas! We say to those who forgot that the Great 1 September Revolution is like a giant tree, whose roots go deep into the soil of our nation. It is watered by the sweet water of its masses and it extends its branches wide so that the fighters and the free men can seek shade under them for the sake of freedom. One of this revolution's basic motives was the cause of liberating Palestine, and the code word on the night of its outbreak on the great Al-Fatih in 1969 was Jerusalem.

All Libyans — members of the popular congresses who have authority, wealth, and arms, are aware that in defense of their principles they are a target and are therefore they are quite prepared to bear the consequences. They have a cause. Indeed they riducule the futility of their enemies' way of thinking and his cowardly deeds!

Jallud Says ICO 'Arabizing' Camp David Accords

LD201541 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud stressed that the fourth Islamic summit conference, instead of having an Islamic banner, showed its contents to be American. It was organized for the sake of creating circumstances for Arabizing the treacherous stable of David agreement [Camp David agreement] under an Islamic umbrella.

In a meeting with a number of newspaper and international news agency correspondents in Casablanca last night, he said that we will not allow for the stable of David agreements to be Arabized. We shall stand with Syria, the Palestinian resistence, and the masses of the Arab nation against the Reagan conspiracy and the conspiracy of self-rule.

Staff Major Jallud explained that the Zionist entity was an extension of the West in the Middle East; it was not just an economic and military ally. He stressed that there was a Zionist-crusader alliance against peace and Muslims. Staff Major Jallud pointed out that the arch enemy of Islam was the United States, and consequently, the United States' friend is hostile to Islam, whatever Islamic slogans it raised. A friend of the United States is a friend of Zionism.

He explained that we rejected the Fes plan at the Islamic summit conference on the basis of our firm position, because this plan recognizes the Zionist enemy and abandons the 1947 Palestine idea and drops the military option. Staff Major Jallud stressed our alliance with the Iranian Islamic revolution and with the Islamic resistance, which is fighting against the capitulation policy. He pointed out that we are certain of the defeat of the stable of David agreements.

Replying to a question on conditions for Egypt's return to the family of Islamic nations, Staff Major Jallud stressed that there would be no return for Egypt until its liberation from the capitulation agreement. He explained that some Arab countries had asked the Jamahiriyyah not to raise the subject of Egypt at the Islamic summit conference until it had been deliberated by Arabs. He pointed out 'Arafat's leading role in the process of the return of Egypt. He stressed that 'Arafat has chosen the path of treachery; the path of the stable of David.

He stressed that the Jamahiriyyah will ally itself with all those who are committed to the gun, bomb, and revolver. He also stressed the Jamahiriyyah's alliance with units of the Palestinian revolution, Syria and Iran. He explained that ther were indications in the Arab homeland which brought the good-tidings that 1984 would be the year of revolutionary decisiveness for the benefit of the popular masses.

Staff Major Jallud explained that our revolution is a social and nationalist revolution, and that unity is the mother of revolutions. He explained that we do not accept the unity of rank, but we accept the unity of action against the enemy. Regarding the date for convening the Arab summit, he said that no date for the confernce has been specified, and that there was no point in convening the conference before resolving some issues.

Arab 'Capitulationist' Policies Condemned

LD221041 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The central issue of the Arab nation is the issue of Arab existence in the face of Zionist and imperialist perils in occupied Palestine — the bridgehead for the 10th crusader campaign; and the central issue of Arab reaction is the defense of the Zionist existence on occupied Arab soil.

The question of Arab solidarity, which was temporarily championed by Arab reactionary forces, has come out not as a move to create a foundation for Arab action against imperialism and Zionism, but appears to have been designed to create a base which is tame and which has no will of its own, a base that can be driven toward the point of recognizing the so-called Israel.

When the reactionary Arab forces championed the schemes of capitulation and put forward schemes which are no different from Camp David, they were trying to break the isolation of the Egyptian regime and Arabize the Camp David agreements, because whoever accepts the Fes plan would be contradicting himself if he rejects Camp David. The foundation on which he stands would be the same foundation as Camp David; even he insolently says that he opposes the Camp David agreements.

The Egyptian regime, which is continuing the As-Sadat line, has not become the only one to stoop to the level of capitulation and defeatism. All the reactionary forces have fallen into this abyss. They have embraced the Egyptian regime. They stand alongside it and by trying to break the isolation of the Egyptian regime they are trying to make the regime's capitulationist line the ultimate aim of the Arab nation.

They also seek to provide an Islamic umbrella under which a

move toward a capitulationist settlement and liquidation of the Palestinian issue can be made, because the reactionaries do not want to be the only ones to blame for the crime of liquidating the Palestinian issue. They want the decision to be an Arab and Islamic one, because in the heat of this universality it might become difficult to spread the blame for the crime, and the reactionaries might get an opportunity to vindicate themselves — from being accused of treason — by waving the documents of conferences which lay responsibility on all the conferees who approved the capitulationist schemes and agreed to lift the siege against the Camp David regime.

Any conference or meeting at the Arab or Islamic level which aims to pave the way for according recognition to the so-called Israel, or for moving in the direction of liquidationist and capitulationist solutions is a conference which is aligned to the United States and to Zionism. Its objectives, on the whole, contradict the aims of the Arab nation and all Muslims. Raising slogans which claim concern for the Arab nation and Islam does not provide a better description of such conferences. True Arabism and true Islam do not champion defeat nor the squandering of Arab territory, nor do they advocate turning a blind eye or doing nothing about the crusader campaign which is being waged by the crusader United States, and the West, and Zionism against the Arab nation and against all Muslims.

Arab reactionaries are trying to empty the Arab struggle of the things which promote and develop it, and which give it a reason for continuing. Arab struggle is not only going to demolish the imperialist influence and Zionist presence, but it will demolish the bases of underdevelopment, the dens of reactionism, and the obsolete way of social life and its basic elements: exploitation, regionalism, tribalism, and factionalism. A conglomerate created by colonialism and now by reactionism wants to keep it in its confrontation with the tide of pan-Arabism and unity.

The Arab struggle has not lost the elements of continuing its ferocious battle for victory over imperialism, Zionism, reactionism, and liquidationism. The rifles of Lebanese and Palestinian resistance have not stopped firing their bullets at the forces of occupation, and the fighters still believe in armed struggle and adhere to the programs and documents which stress that the aim of armed struggle is the liberation of all occupied Arab soil and the destruction of the Zionist state. The fighters are relying on the pan-Arab stand of the Jamahiriyah — a stand that supports the combat rifle and consolidates the path of armed struggle.

As this stage is crucial, those who reject capitulationist solutions cannot adopt a stand which does not go hand in hand with their convictions, nor can they choose to be spectators on the pretext that the path of treason is bound to fail. The path of treason does not fail by itself but it fails under the weight of powerful and successive blows, and from the combat confrontation which creates a pan-Arab revolutionary combat state in the confrontation with the defeated reactionism.

If Arab masses from the ocean to the Gulf are to begin a gallant resistance against the path of settlement which will spark off a popular revolution, the masses of the occupied Arab soil and the masses of Palestine — which was occupied in 1948 — are called upon to make the first move in this connection. The masses of Palestine were the first to find out how dangerous autonomy and the various liquidation solutions are to their existence and their pan-Arab struggle, which has been going on since 1948.

Perhaps, these masses will be in the vanguard of those who reject the path of deviation and treason, and spark off the flame of pan-Arab popular revolution for the sake of an armed struggle that will liberate the entire occupied Arab soil and make a fool of and destroy all the schemes of liquidation and settlement under the Arab reactionary umbrella and the Islamic-American umbrella.

U.S. Role in Mideast Solution Rejected

LD221921 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The U.S. Administration officially announced that it objects to the convening of any international conference on the Middle East.

We ask: What right has the U.S. Administration to reject any scheme connected with the Middle East problem? Moreover, what entitles it even to take part in any conference connected with the Middle East if convened? If, for argument's sake, we concede that the United States has a role, when it influences the other parties, and if we accept the theory that for every action there is a reaction, how could the United States be a part of the action and the reaction at the same time?

We do not ask the U.S. Administration about the reasons for its opposition to a conference on the Middle East. However, we wonder what grounds entitle it to this right. All the Arabs must realize that neither the United States nor anyone else has the right to make a decision on their behalf, because the case is the patriotic cause of the Arabs, and can only be solved through and by them. Any outside participation in presenting this case is an interference in the internal affairs of the Arabs. This must be known by the Arabs and the enemies of the Arabs.

MOROCCO

140 Reportedly Killed in Recent Demonstrations

PA211926 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Melilla, Spain, 21 Jan (EFE) — According to reports reaching the Spanish city of Melilla (in Northern Africa) today, 140 people may have been killed in demonstrations over the past 2 days in Morocco.

Unconfirmed reports indicate that a nationwide strike is scheduled to take place on Monday throughout Morocco.

In the Moroccan city of Nador, 14 km from Melilla, clashes between demonstrators and policemen left more than 40 dead, according to some sources.

Reports reaching Melilla indicate that the Army opened fire on demonstrators in disturbances in the townships of Farhana and Beni-Enzar, producing an undetermined number of victims.

Other reports also picked up in Melilla indicate that the Nador disturbances were not as violent as those that took place at the middle of the week in Alhucemas, where as many as 100 dead may have resulted.

Red Cross Hospital sources in Melilla confirmed to EFE that five Moroccans with bullet wounds were admitted to the hospital on Friday. One was subsequently released.

The hospital refused to provide information on the identity and condition of the wounded. However, it is known that of the four remaining in the hospital, two were from Beni-Enzar, one from Farhana, and the fourth from Nador.

Madrid Reports on Disturbances

LD211510 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text][Announcer] There is apparent calm in Morocco following the recent incidents. Rafael Ortega has compiled the following report:

[Ortega] The figure of 25 dead seems to be confirmed as the provisional toll of the disturbances in Nador and other Moroccan towns. There is absolute calm in Nador this morning, though there has been no reduction in the presence of police and Army forces. We now go over to our colleague Jose Ramon Garmuz, our special correspondent in Tetouan, for the latest news there:

[Garmuz] There is a climate of fear in Morocco today, fear of a widespread insurrection which (?they are trying to prevent) with harsh repressive measures. A nationwide general strike has been called for Monday. At the moment, as I send this report, you can hear the shots of the Army patrols that throughout the morning have prevented groups of people from gathering in the center of the town. The town's main square, where the Spanish consulate is situated, is entirely occupied by soldiers. The danger in the streets of Tetouan is palpable. For example, when we were in a taxi we had to brake sharply so as not to get caught by the shots being fired by a soldier at the demonstrators. According to a report from the Spanish consul in Tetouan the Spanish community has not suffered any harm. [passage indistinct]

[Ortega] We conclude with a figure for the number of victims. According to some unofficial Moroccan sources in reports which we have just received, the number of dead may have reached 50.

Spanish, AFP Correspondents Expelled

LD220250 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Our correspondent in Tetouan, Jose Ramon Ganuza has been expelled from Morocco soon after sending us his dispatch for our mid-day news bulletin. He was taken by the Moroccan police to the frontier post at Ceuta. Jose Ramon Ganuza is a news editor for Radio Nacional in La Linea. In addition, a special correspondent of the French AFP has been expelled. We have a report here from our correspondent in Rabat, Daniel Peral.

The Moroccan Press Agency MAP and the Moroccan National radio announced that the King of Morocco Hassan II will broadcast to the nation tomorrow Sunday, without specifying the reason for his broadcast. In Rabat and other towns in the center and south of Morocco there is a total lack of news from official sources; news circulates among the opposition circles and has become general public knowledge. Telephone service between towns is possible. From Rabat, it appears that the most serious incidents today were in Tetouan, with some 60 people killed. In Nador the figure varies from 25 to 65 dead; in Al Hoceima, 15; and in Beninar, near Melilla, 7. In Oujda, a town close to the Algerian border, light tanks of the Moroccan Army are patrolling.

The opposition circles, when questioned, insist that the protest movement among students opposed to the rise in academic fees is spontaneous. It is not believed that these groups are encouraged or backed by Islamic fundamentalist groups. It is in the north of the country that such groups are more numerous; they are of various convictions and are not at all united. Regarding a general strike throughout Morocco, this is only a rumor. No party or trade union appears to back such action. The Party for Progress and Socialism, formerly the Communist Party, is to study the situation of the working class in the present crisis this weekend in the country's economic capital, Casablanca.

Morocco as a whole always fears what might happen in Casablanca, a city of 3.5 million inhabitants. The socialists are gathered in Casablanca and they too are examining the situation. It is hoped they will issue a communique on the latest events. All this week in Casablanca, educational establishments have been closed because of the Islamic summit. Schools reopen on Monday; only then will it be possible to judge the effects of what happened in the north. The Spanish colony in Morocco is well.

More on Journalists' Expulsion

OW220358 Hong Kong AFP in English 0206 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Madrid, Jan 22 (AFP) — A Spanish radio reporter was expelled from Morocco Saturday, the third known victim of Moroccan efforts to block foreign journalists from finding out the number of people killed in rioting (?there in protest) against price rises.

The journalist, Jose Ramon Ganuza, was questioned by police in the town of Tetouan, which was heavily patrolled by troops, after sending a report on the situation to Madrid. He was taken to the border with the Spanish enclave of Ceuta and deported.

Earlier Saturday, two other journalists, AFP correspondent Jacques-Michel Tondre and *NEW YORK TIMES* reporter Henry Kamm were stopped from going to the town of Nador, where at least 40 people are reported to have been killed last Thursday when police and troops opened fire on some 10,000 demonstrators angry at rises in the price of food and school fees.

Mr Tondre was put on a plane out of the country, to the southern French town of Marseilles. He and Mr Kamm were told they could not go to Nador because of roadblocks.

AFP: Hassan Blames Outsiders

OW230056 Hong Kong AFP in English 0032 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, Jan 23 (AFP) — King Hassan II Sunday blamed Iran, "Marxist-Leninists" and "Zionist intelligence services" for rioting in northern Morocco which, according to latest eyewitness reports, left 140 to 160 people dead.

In a television and radio speech, King Hassan also said he had decided to rescind food price rises ordered January 1. Non-moroccan news reports have attributed the violence to these hikes and to higher education costs.

King Hassan charged that the riots had been directed from outside the country in a bid to make last week's Islamic summit in Casablanca fail, so that it could not make a statement on Afghanistan. As evidence, he showed documents he said were seized at Marrakesh, some with a photograph of Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and some with the alleged signature of the outlawed Moroccan Marxist-Leninist group Ila al-Amam. Some of the documents described Islamic leaders as "servants of the American and Soviet satans." Others said Morocco's economic problems were caused by King Hassan's "war against our brothers of the Western Sahara (Polisario guerrillas)," not drought and high oil bills.

King Hassan said the violence, which started in Marrakesh and spread to Nador, Alhucemas, Oujda, Ksar-el-Kebir, Tetouan and Chaouen, was organized by professors and so-called professional unemployed people. Some of the professors and jobless, as well as "young lawyers and elements of Ila al-Amam" had been arrested and would be prosecuted, King Hassan said. He said the "professional agitators," to make looting easier, had encouraged schoolchildren to protest in the streets first, knowing the authorities would not retaliate against them.

King Hassan said he had ordered severe action against any new violence. He did not give casualty figures for the rioting.

(But in the Spanish enclave of Melilla on Morocco's Mediterranean coast, a foreigner who lives in Nador said 140 to 160 people had been killed in and around Nador since Thursday. More riots were scheduled for today in Nador, the source said.

(The unidentified foreigner said violence began when "a group of adolescents" started protesting against the high cost of living, "breaking things in their way."

(Later gunfire was heard, then people started running in the streets. Trucks of soldiers arrived, troops took up positions at crossroads and started firing, the witness said.

(A helicopter flew over the town, "spotting crowds of protesters." Then, as tension mounted, the soldiers "became very nervous and fired in all directions."

(The report was similar to information given AFP earlier in Mellila by Moroccan students who took part in the riots.)

(Spanish state radio earlier said about 150 people had died in the Moroccan rioting in the past few days. A Spanish customs officer stationed on the border between Ceuta and Morocco told AFP in a telephone interview that both Moroccan and Spanish travellers had said 50 to 60 people had died in clashes at Tetouan.)

Meanwhile violence was continuing in towns near Melilla and a general strike was scheduled for today.

SUDAN

President Returns From Nigeria, Comments on Talks

LD202348 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpts] President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri returned home at 1700 today after a visit to Nigeria during which he held talks with Nigerian President Muhammad Buhari. President Numayri arrived in the Nigerian capital yesterday, after participating in the fourth Islamic summit in Casablanca, Morocco.

The Nigerian president told the information team accompanying the leader president that President Numayri's visit to Nigeria was the first by a president since the coming of the new administration. He said the visit confirmed the security and stability of the situation in Nigeria.

Referring to the talks between them, the Nigerian president said they touched on fraternal relations between the two countries. The Nigerian president also expressed regret about what was going on between the Chadian brothers. He said he hopes peace will prevail among the various groups in the interest of Chad and to enable it to take its place among the nations of the world. His excellency also spoke about the failure of the talks held in Addis Ababa on the Chad crisis and expressed the hope that they will be resumed so that Chad could become active in making contributions to the African countries.

In conclusion, the Nigerian president referred to the future of his country. He said it is still too early to speak in this regard, particularly as the Nigerian people themselves would have to have their say. What concern us most at the present time, he said, are internal security and the bad economic situation, in addition to other aspects. In spite of all that, however, Nigeria will remain an active and effective member of the OAU and committed to all its international obligations.

TUNISIA

President Bourguiba Orders Curfew Amended

LD211338 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] By order of His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, the Ministries of Interior and National Defense announce that the curfew declared by order number [indistinct] dated 3 January 1984 is to be altered as of today, 21 January, 1984 in the following way:

The movement of people and vhicles is prohibited from midnight until 0400.

Mzali Meets Visiting Italian Interior Minister

LD210949 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Tunisia and Italy have a common wish that 1984 will be a year for giving their relations a new push; revising cooperation between the two countries to give it a Mediterranean, Arab, and European dimension; and stimulating bilateral relations.

This was expressed yesterday when Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali met the Italian interior minister, who also met with the minister of foreign affairs. The Italian envoy conveyed messages to Mohamed Mzali and Beji Caid es-Sebsi from their counterparts, Bettino Craxi and Giulio Andreotti.

Yesterday the Italian envoy had a meeting with the secretary of state in charge of international cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and reviewed the projects listed in the 6th plan, — Italy has expressed its wish to contribute to the achievement of this plan — such as the productive family program of installing technical instruments that would enable audiences in Tunisia to follow the Italian Television Channel 1 programs.

It is expected that these projects will be included in the talks to be held between Beji Caid es-Sebsi and his Italian counterpart during the official visit that the foreign minister will pay to Italy next month and the periodic meetings between the two countries' foreign ministers.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Sends Message to OAU Defense Commission

EA222020 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1712 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam today called on the Africa Defense Commission [ADC] to sincerely assess the threat posed by the racist South African regime to the territorial integrity and security of Angola and other neighboring countries and to work out a practical plan to eradicate this grave and worrying problem.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, PMAC and COPWE chairman, commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces and current OAU chairman made the call in a message to the chairman of the eighth regular session of the ADC. In it, he said that the ADC session was taking place during a very worrying period in Africa's history when South Africa and imperialism were engaging in repeated acts of aggression on the sister People's Republic of Angola and other countries bordering South Africa.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu stressed that the racist South African regime, supported by forces opposed to Africa's sincere desire for independence and political and economic freedom, was occupying Namibia and Angolan territory, while the soldiers and aircraft of the racist regime were daily violating the territorial integrity of Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho, and Zimbabwe.

In this respect, he said, the number of refugees was increasing as a result of the ugly crimes being committed by the Pretoria regime against the people of southern Africa. He added that these deeds were being perpetrated with disregard for world opinion and total disrespect for UN Security Council resolutions.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu said that this sort of aggression was of concern to countries neighboring South Africa and posed a particular threat to the freedom and well-being of Angola. He stated that it violated the dignity of African and other countries of the world which have a high regard for their national dignity and freedom.

The Foreign Ministry has disclosed that Comrade Chairman Mengistu has also sent similar messages regarding the session of the OAU Defense Commission to the leaders of countries bordering South Africa.

Mengistu Denies Interference in Sudan

EA222014 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam has reaffirmed Ethiopia's policy of peace and good-neighbourliness, saying that it will never deploy its military forces for any purpose other than legitimate self-defence.

(?Addressing) the 45th batch of graduates and cadets at the Holeta-Genet military training school yesterday, the PMAC chairman said that Ethiopia's policy is geared to mutual progress and not mutual destruction. He made it clear, however, that Ethiopia will never tolerate the baseless allegation of those who attempt to lay blame for their domestic problems on this country.

In this connection, Comrade Mengistu mentioned the orchestrated and threatening campaign launched by the Sudanese Government accusing Ethiopia of instigating the simmering crisis in the country. He said it was criminal of the Sudanese Government to make such allegations, knowing full well that has for long been harbouring anti-unity and anti-revolution bandit groups in north-western Ethiopia. Comrade Chairman Mengistu reiterated that the Khartoum government is thoroughly responsible for the crisis that has been gripping that country since recently.

Rebel Radio Claims Purge of Dergue Officials

EA191613 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Tigrinya to Ethiopia 1345 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Due to the power struggles within it, the facist Dergue has since December killed and imprisoned a number of Dergue and COPWE officials, civil servants and others.

We now read out the names of some of these COPWE officials, government employees and others. Among those killed are Hiruye Asgedom, deputy chief administrator of Tigre administrative region, and Alemayehu Bekele, in charge of dispatching spies [as heard].

Among those imprisoned from Addis Ababa are: Dr Mengesha, Belay Nega; Tadese Gebre Igziabher, COPWE Central Committee member Dinsa, COPWE Central Committee member and Shoa COPWE representative; and Lema Gutema, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative for Addis Ababa.

EPLF Forces Capture Three Eritrean Towns

GF191345 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1122 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Jan (WAKH) — The Eritrean Popular Liberation Front [EPLF] has inflicted heavy losses in men and materiel on the Ethiopian forces and has liberated three Eritrean towns. Osman Mohamed (Omar), the EPLF representative in the UAE, has said that during the current week the Eritrean Popular Liberation Army attacked three towns: Teseney; Aligider; and the town 13, which lies on the Sudanese-Eritrean border. The three towns were captured following fierce fighting with the Ethiopian forces, he said. The EPLF representative spoke of the strategic position of the three towns that have been captured and said that this will assist in the liberation of other Eritrean towns.

The EPLF said that as a result of the attack, the Ethiopian forces have sustained losses, which included 1,200 killed or wounded; 200 taken prisoner; and the seizure of tanks, vehicles, guns, rifles, and ammunition. He said that 100 Ethiopian soldiers surrendered themselves and their weapons to the Sudanese Army in Kassala following the offensive launched by the EPLF forces.

Guerrilla Forces Attack Government Troops

EA221746 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Amharic to Ethiopia 1315 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] On 29 December 1983 and 1 January 1984, our heroic guerrilla forces attacked a Dergue force moving from (Telakhen) to (Quiaat) on a mission to harass civilians. Our forces killed or wounded seven Dergue soldiers, including a sergeant.

Moreover our guerrilla forces attacked Dergue forces on 9 January, moving from Axum to Debra; on 13 January, moving from (Ooro) to (Atsebi); and on 14 January, moving from Axum to (Orumarai), killing or wounding eight soldiers. In retaliation, the enemy killed a farmer and wounded another. The Ethiopian forces also took 43 prisoners, seized seven head of cattle, and burned much property.

ELF-PLF Official on Ethiopian Losses, Unity

GF211040 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Doha — Mohamed Osman Abu Bakr, representative of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces [ELF-PLF] in the Gulf region, has stated that the Eritrean fighters killed 95 Ethiopian soldiers and captured 90 others in fierce battles which took place yesterday between the ELF-PLF forces and the Ethiopian forces on the axis of the city of Teseney and Aligider in western Eritrea. He said the Eritrean forces also captured a huge quantity of arms and materiel during these battles.

The ELF-PLF official emphasized that the current year will witness a great development on the level of national unity to escalate military operations and achieve positive results against the Ethiopian forces in the Eritrean people's struggle to liberate their land.

KENYA

Commissioner Warns Tribal Clash Instigators

EA221918 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Leaders who forment tribal clashes in the north eastern province will now face very severe punitive action from the government. The north eastern provincial commissioner [PC], Mr Benson Kaaria, warned that such leaders, who pose as law-abiding citizens while stirring up community unrest in the background, will henceforth be personally held responsible for their mischiefs.

Speaking during a tour of Wajir and Mndera districts, Mr Kaaria declared that the government will not hesitate to order the arrest of such leaders, whom he described as wolves hiding in sheepskins. He also warned that warring rival clans in the two districts may have their cattle confiscated as punishment for (?endangering) peace and security.

The PC further said that the people hiring bandits and those holding illegal firearms will not be tolerated. Mr Kaaria cautioned chiefs and community leaders to remember that illegal firearms in their areas were a danger to innocent wananchi. He called for joint efforts to expose owners of illegal firearms before the government is compelled to use force against such criminals and those behind tribal clashes.

SOMALIA

President Meets Sudanese Parliamentarians 18 Jan

EA191605 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0330 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The president of the SDR [Somali Democratic Republic], Challe Mohamed Siad Barre last night received the chairman of the Peoples Assembly of Sudan Izz ad-Din as-Sayid who is also the chairman of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, [IPU] and his delegation at the presidency.

The delegation, which made a courtesy call on the president, discussed matters pertaining to the strengthening of the good cooperation and relations existing between the parliaments of the two sisterly countries and also the historic ties between the SDR and the Sudan. [Words indistinct] also (?hailed) the cordial relations between the Somali People's National Assembly and the IPU.

Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, the president of the SDR, called on the delegation to convey his warm greeting to the president, the Government and the Peoples Parliament of Sudan.

The head of the delegation conveyed greetings from President Ja'far Numayri.

WSLF Claims Ethiopians Impose Curfew on Jijiga

EA221732 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front in Somali to Western Somalia 1200 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Reports from the WSLF Information Bureau indicate that the Abyssinian black colonialists have imposed a curfew on Jijiga and its suburbs. The reports say that this follows an attack by WSLF freedom fighters on the major enemy army base at (Garabis) on 3 and 4 January in which nine Cuban mercenaries and two [words indistinct] Abyssinians were killed. The reports add that, also this month, the gallant WSLF freedom fighters attached the (Urget) enemy base in Jijiga, killing eight Abyssinian soldiers.

[Words indistinct] It is known that when the WSLF freedom fighters weaken the Abyssinian black colonialists, the enemy forces resort to indiscriminate killings of innocent people and wanton destruction, particularly [words indistinct].

Radio Halgan Claims Refugees Fleeing Barre Regime

EA202338 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Reports from refugee camps in the Somali Democratic Republic and places where other destitutes live in Somalia say that many people are fleeing from those areas. Reports confirm that the people are fleeing from their camps because of lack of food and hardships affecting the areas.

The major problems causing the people to flee from the camps include general Siad Barre's regime pressing all young persons throughout Somalia into the army. This forcible conscription has greatly affected the people living in the refugee camps. The fleeing people are young persons and others who are unable accept compulsory military service.

Reports add that the Mogadishu regime plans to use the people being forcibly conscripted into the army to oppress the general public of Somalia who are opposed to the maladministration of the Mogadishu regime. The same people will also be used to confront their brothers of the Somali opposition forces who have taken up arms to topple the Mogadishu regime to save Somalia and its people from the terror regime of General Siad Barre.

The reports add further that international relief organizations are worried by these new problems caused by the Mogadishu regime. The Mogadishu regime has often been accused of mismanaging the food and medicines provided for the refugees.

TANZANIA

Foreign Minister Leaves for Rome Disarmament Meeting

EA210135 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Summary] Foreign Minister Salim Ahmad Salim has left for Rome to attend the meetings of the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security and the Independent Commission on International Development Issues opening today.

UGANDA

Border Metings With Kenya Opens in Jinja

EA191656 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] A 2-day Kenya-Uganda border meeting has opened in Jinja. The meeting, which is being attended by a 36-man delegation from Kenya, led by the provincial commissioner of Western Province, Mr (Okobia), is a follow-up of the one held in Kakamega, Kenya, in March last year.

Officiating at the opening session, the permanent secretary, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Mr Dramadri, who is also the chairman of the meeting, said that Uganda and Kenya not only share historic and cultural backgrounds, but are also bound by economic ties.

Mr Dramadri stressed that it was in this light that the two sister countries have always strived to maintain a healthy relationship aimed at promoting further the existing goodneighborliness.

The leader of the Kenya delegation was happy to note that tangible results have been realized from the Kakamega meeting, and hoped that the current meeting will rectify any constraints that might have prevented implementation of other resolutions.

The meeting is being attended by the permanent secretary, Ministry of Regional Cooperation, Mr Nyakimwe; district commissioners, administrative secretaries and senior officials from the Ministries of Internal Affairs, Regional Cooperation and Defense.

Gunmen Kill Europeans Outside of Kampala

3 Swiss 22 January

AB230729 Paris AFP in French 0713 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Nairobi, 23 Jan (AFP) — Three Swiss nationals were killed on Sunday afternoon outside Kampala, the Ugandan capital, by a group of gunmen, it was learned on Monday from diplomatic sources in Kampala and Nairobi. A fourth man who was seriously wounded was admitted to the hospital, these sources added. The Swiss Embassy has declined to disclose the identities of the victims until their families have been informed.

Englishman 22 January

AB230800 Paris AFP in French 0733 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Nairobi, 23 Jan (AFP) — An Englishman was killed on Sunday afternoon near Kampala along the same road where three Swiss nationals were killed on the same day by a gang of gunmen, a spokesman of the British High Commission in Kampala announced on Monday when contacted by phone.

The spokesman declined to give further details, simply specifying that the victim was not on the staff of the High Commission (embassy).

The road along which the two incidents took place links the Ugandan capital to a small sailing club called Kaazi Sailing Club, on the shore of Lake Victoria. The road is heavily used by expatriates during the weekends.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

President Kolingba Shuffles, Reduces Cabinet

AB231100 Paris AFP in French 1049 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Bangui, 23 Jan (AFP) — CAR President General Andre Kolingba made a major cabinet reshuffle on Monday, it was announced in Bangui.

The new cabinet consists of only 14 members whereas the previous one set up on 28 May 1983 comprised 17 members. Nine ministers have been dropped, while six others are newcomers.

This is the most important cabinet reshuffle since the Military Committee of National Redress was set up on 1 September 1981, observers say.

CHAD

General Denies Saying Libya Annexing N. Chad

PM201017 Paris LE MONDE in French 19 Jan 84 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Chad: Explanation From Defense Ministry"]

[Text] In a communique issued by the Defense Ministry on Tuesday 17 January, General Jean Poli, who is commanding operation "Manta" in Chad, denies having told our correspondent Jean-Claude Pomonti and AFP special envoy Jean-Eudes Barbier that northern Chad is "being annexed by Libya." "I am surprised by the remarks attributed to me," the general says, specifying that he did not mention "annexation" but recalled that the Libyan forces and Transitional National Unity Government elements had seemed to have strengthened their position in the north for some time.

(We maintain that Gen Poli did make the remarks reported by our special envoy, which were probably deemed inappropriate in Paris — *LE MONDE* editor's note).

ZAIRE

Further Reports on Israeli President Herzog's Visit

Mideast Situation Assessed

AB191140 Paris AFP in English 0803 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Kinshasa, Jan 19 (AFP) — There is a general sentiment in the Middle East in favour of restoring peace through negotiations with Israel, President Hayim Herzog said here Wednesday at the start of an official visit to Zaire.

Egypt was remaining faithful to the Camp David peace agreement, although some "minor difficulties" still existed, Mr Herzog said at a press conference.

Another factor was the "half peace" between Israel and Jordan, and the fact that the frontiers with Lebanon were open. These "semi-solutions" were preferable to the absence of any at all, Mr Herzog said, given the current situation and the points of view defended by the various sides.

He said Jordan's King Husayn alone had the power to decided what objectives to follow in the name of the Palestinians. Mr Herzog cited the summoning of the Jordanian Parliament, half of whose members are by statute from the Palestinian-inhabited West Bank.

Mr Herzog said Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat lacked the capacity to act positively for the Palestinians because of the splits in his movement.

At a banquet later hosted by Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko, Mr Herzog said the "tragedy" of the Palestinian cause lay in the "all or nothing policy" followed by the PLO.

Mr Herzog said Zaire's decision to restore diplomatic links with Israel in May 1982 had shown the world that "exclusion cannot be a solution". Israel and Africa nurtured the same aversion to racism, he said, and Israel was ready to place its experience at the service of Africa.

At the press conference earlier, the Israeli president accused unnamed countries of interfering with African internal affairs to prevent them from renewing links with Israel (most black states severed relations after the 1973 Mideast war).

But despite the obstacles thrown up by blackmail and pressures, all African peoples would end up by understanding that much could be gained by friendship with Israel, Mr Herzog forecast.

At the dinner, Field Marshal Mobutu, saying he could speak frankly to a friend, urged the Jewish people who had experienced the humiliation of the diaspora, genocide and pogroms to understand the sufferings of Palestinians. Their frustration and despair risked being translated solely by violence, he warned.

The Palestinian reality had to be taken into account in the search for a settlement in the Middle East, President Mobutu said. Likewise, to harbour dreams about the annihilation of Israel smacked of unreality.

He urged both sides to show a minimum of mutal tolerance and political realism in order to reach the possibility of an understanding, though without there being any need to sacrifice their respective imperatives of security.

There were four essential conditions for an end to the conflict, President Mobutu Said. There had to be recognition of the right of each state in the region to live in peace within recognised borders, respect for their territorial integrity, political independence and sovereignty, and mutual recognition among the states.

The fourth condition was recognition and respect for the right of the Palestinian people to establish a homeland or independent and sovereign state under leadership of their choice.

Zaire officially recognized the PLO in 1975.

Remarks on Shaba Province

AB201230 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0845 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Lubumbashi, 20 Jan (AZAP) — The Israeli president said on Thursday that he was happy to note that the sad effects of war have faded from the Shaba region to give way to union and fraternity. He expressed the hope that Shaba will serve as an example to all those who want to impose war and destruction instead of "seeing to vital needs of their peoples."

The Israeli head of state made these remarks during the exchange of toasts at a banquet offered in his honor on Thursday evening at the Hotel Karavia. Mr Herzog, who is visiting the capital of the copper-producing region, hoped that peace will bring to humanity, happiness, and prosperity in order to live without fear. "May the dove of peace fly over Shaba," he said, "as well as other regions in Zaire."

Earlier, the deputy governor of Shaba, Citizen Mbalanga, described the characteristics of the region to his illustrious guest to whom he offered a magnificent picture as gift. The Israeli president, in turn, gave the deputy governor a bible, the symbol of peace.

According to the program drawn up by the local authorities, the presidential couple will leave Lubumbashi for Kinshasa today at 1000.

Kolwezi Mines Visit

AB201356 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1301 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 19 Jan (AZAP) — The president of the State of Israel and Mrs Herzog left Kinshasa at 0930 on Thursday for Kolwezi where they will visit the installations of the GECAMINES [General Quarries and Mines Company].

The Israeli presidential couple was seen off at the Ndjili Airport by First State Commissioner Citizen Kengo wa Dondo; Citizen Umba di Lutete, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation; the governor of the city of Kinshasa, Citizen Kabaidi wa Kabaidi; the governor of the zone of the Nsele, and the commandant of the city.

The Israeli president, who was accompanied by Citizen Mozagba Ngbuka, state commissioner for territorial administration, is expected in Lubumbashi this afternoon.

Commentary on Speeches

AB201355 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0900 GMT 20 Jan 84

[AZAP commentary: "A Salutary Frankness"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 20 Jan (AZAP) — It was in a very frank way — which clearly demonstrated the feelings of the Zairian people concerning the search for a just and equitable solution in the Middle East — that head of state Mobutu Sese Seko on Wednesday addressed his Israeli counterpart Hayim Herzog, who is now on an official visit to our country. No one can claim that by so doing, Zaire — through its leader — resorted to a trick in order to please one of the protagonists. On the contrary, the head of state would have provoked a diplomatic stir if he had used the same language in the 60's. This cannot happen today because of the fact that all sincere friends of Zaire know and appreciate Marshal Mobutu's frankness.

Aware of the fact that frankness demonstrates the sincerity of feelings, the founding chairman [of the MPR] did not fail to tell his guest, who by the way was attentive throughout this address, that he and his people should show realism and tolerance — for which posterity will not fail to do them justice — in order to hasten the end of the deadlock of the Middle East situation characterized by the wandering of the Palestinian people.

These Palestinian men, women, and children who are now being tossed about between various countries and subjected to the same persecutions the Jewish people had experienced, can be best understood by the Jews whose past precarious situation and humiliations constitute enough reasons for them to listen to appeals for tolerance. Through these just and clear words, President Mobutu Sese Seko once again demonstrated that his country remains and will always remain true to itself. Frankness should constantly remain the rule between friends.

For those who believe the word of God, there can be no doubt at all that the Zairian message could bear fruits in the very near future. The founding chairman addressed himself to a man who is sensitive to this word since he personally quoted a passage of the Bible which states that man was made in the image of God.

Peace will be possible in the Middle East only if the Arabs and the Israelis decide to forget their mutual resentments and adopt an attitude in conformity with the Bible, which preaches the love of one's neighbor. The Zairian people fervently hope for this eventuality.

Legislation for November Election Promulgated

AB211411 Paris AFP in English 1212 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Kinshasa, Jan 21 (AFP) — Zaire's head of state, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, has promulgated legislation for the election of a president by direct universal suffrage next November.

The law calls for the selection of a single candidate by the country's sole legal political party, the Popular Movement of the Revolution.

Marshal Mobutu, who has ruled as head of state since November 1965, has already announced his candidacy.

Under the law, voting will be compulsory for all citizens over 18.

In a presidential election in December 1977, in which he was the sole candidate, Mr Mobutu officially received 98.16 percent of more than 10 million votes cast.

BENIN

Upper Volta's Sankara Arrives, Reaffirms Close Ties

AB200945 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The Upper Voltan head of state, Captain Thomas Sankara, arrived in our country this morning for a 2-day official visit. He was welcomed at the Cotonou Cadjehoun International Airport by President Kerekou himself. President Thomas Sankara, who is leading his country's delegation, was welcomed as he alighted from the aircraft by our great comrade in arms, President Kerekou.

After the protocol proceedings — military honors, national anthems, review of honor guards, introduction of members of the central authorities of the party and state, introduction of heads of diplomatic missions and representatives of international organizations — President Sankara shook hands with the teeming masses of militants who crowded the airport to welcome him. President Thomas Sankara was so impressed with this welcome ceremony that he emphasized it in the interview he granted to reporters at the VIP lounge of the airport:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Comrade President, on behalf of the Beninese reporters, I wish to welcome you to the free African land of Benin. Could you tell us, Comrade President, what your sentiments are at this moment when, for the first time, you stand on the soil of Benin, and also tell us about the goals of your visit?

[Sankara] Before answering your question, I would first of all like to say how much I was enchanted and touched by the sincere, popular and militant welcome by our Beninese comrades on our arrival this morning.

I believe that I am undertaking a revolutionary duty, a correct action in the sense that our two revolutions, which are founded on a just and healthy basis, resemble one another. We in Upper Volta do not consider coming to Benin as traveling to another country; we feel we have just moved from one part of our country to another, because we believe that people who are aware, people who are engaged in a struggle for their freedom and against their enemies in order to take their own destiny in their hands, such people have no borders between them. So it is only normal that from time to time Upper Voltans go to Benin, just as Upper Voltans expect Beninese in Upper Volta to exchange experiences, to get to know one another better and to support one another in the challenge we have thrown to the imperialists in disarray. [end recording]

Sankara Departs; Communique Issued

AB211030 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The official visit of the Upper Voltan head of state, Captain Thomas Sankara, ended this morning at the Cotonou International Airport, from which the plane carrying the president and his delegation flew to the neighboring republic of Togo. This visit has crowned the excellent relations between Upper Volta and Benin, and has also strengthened the complementarity of the two sister revolutions. In fact, this is what Captain Thomas Sankara himself said while talking about his impressions to our reporter, Jean (Behouanou):

[Begin recording] [(Behouanou)] Comrade President, at the end of your visit to our country, could you tell us your impression about your stay in the People's Republic of Benin, and the discussions you had with the high authorities of Benin?

[Sankara] I have come to Benin for the first time, and I am happy to be here because it gives me the opportunity to make contacts with a genuinely popular revolution. I noticed that the popular masses in Benin are really mobilized, and I also noticed that the political authorities in Benin are clearly conscious of the stake in this revolutionary option. The concrete achievements and the structuring of your party are some of the elements that convince me of the seriousness of your revolution, and I must say that it is interesting to note that, contrary to what some press reports are saying — trying to play down the activities being undertaken by the Beninese people, who are mobilized solidly behind their party — we saw on the spot that Benin is resolutely engaged on the path that is gradually bringing the Beninese people the welfare they deserve. [end recording]

Before the Upper Voltan head of state left for Togo, he held a second round of talks with President Kerekou. These talks lasted more than 1 hour, during which the two heads of state tackled bilateral cooperation between Upper Volta and Benin. President Sankara and his Beninese host also reviewed current events, including the international economic crisis and the subversive machinations of international imperialism. Here is the final communique issued at the end of the visit of President Thomas Sankara, the Upper Voltan head of state. The communique is read by Comrade Gado Gibidissou, chairman of the External Relations Commission of the Central Committee of the People's Revolution Party of Benin:

[Begin recording] Joint Communique: At the invitation of His Excellency Comrade Mathieu Kerekou, president of the People's Republic of Benin, His Excellency Comrade Thomas Sankara, president of the National Council of the Revolution and Upper Voltan head of state, made a friendly working visit to the People's Republic of Benin on 19 and 20 January 1984. During their talks, the two heads of state exchanged fruitful experiences on the ongoing revolutions in their respective countries. They expressed satisfaction about the similarity of the basic objectives of the two revolutions, and expressed their political will to work together to strengthen the various links binding the two peoples and the two states since the beginning of the Upper Voltan revolution.

They expressed their satisfaction over the creation of a joint cooperation commission between the two countries and agreed to hold its first session in Ouagadougou in the Republic of Upper Volta from 26 to 29 January 1984.

Touching on the situation in southern Africa, the two heads of state unreservedly condemned the racist minority regime of South Africa. They expressed their determination to work relentlessly together to support the heroic struggle being waged by the

Namibian people under the clear-sighted leadership of SWAPO. They expressed the urgent need to do everything for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435, and categorically rejected the link between the independence of Namibia and the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist forces from Angola.

They also reaffirmed their support for the just struggle of the South African people, led by the ANC against the Pretoria racist regime, and for the installation of a democratic society based on social justice, equality, and brotherhood.

On the situation in Chad, the two presidents deplored the failure of the roundtable conference convened by the OAU to bring together the Chadian factions. They made an urgent appeal to all the factions to pay enough attention to the importance of the stakes involved, and do everything to find a just and lasting solution which will restore peace and harmony in Chad.

Concerning the Western Sahara issue, the two heads of state expressed their concern about the refusal of the Kingdom of Morocco to undertake direct negotiations with the Polisario Front in accordance with the relevant resolutions made by the OAU during its 19th summit in Addis Ababa and adopted by the 36th session of the UN General Assembly. Such a negative attitude blocks the said resolution whose implementation should have led to the organization of a referendum for self-determination by the Saharan people. [end recording]

GHANA

Rawlings Urges People To Assess Economic Priorities

AB201225 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 20 Jan 84

[From the Press Review]

[Excerpt] The *PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC* devotes its editorial column to excerpts from an interview the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, had with an American journalist, Dr (?Samory) Maximan of (?WPI) Radio in New York.

Explaining what he means by the human factor to him, Chairman Rawlings said: When I talk about the human factor I am talking about the world of ignorance, about the world of the oppressed man, and about the level of reasoning that cannot find any anology or equation in your society. The PNDC chairman, explaining further to the American journalist, said: So when I talk about the human factor I am talking about the way your ancestors must have felt when they decided that we are going to revolt against the British overlords when they attempted to reimpose themselves.

Flight Lt Rawlings was asked about the major problems which confronted the government in 1983 and what he sees as the ones likely to be most dominant in 1984 which relate to giving power to Ghanaian people. In reply, Chairman Rawlings said the first aim is to bring stability to the country, to stop the downward slide, and to restore the infrastructural and productive capacity. He noted that although it has not been easy trying to achieve the set targets, the PNDC has done its best within the limited resources. Flight Lt Rawlings stated that financial help which the country has received from the IMF, the World Bank, and individual donor countries must be regarded as a tool with which Ghanaians must work to repair the shattered economy. He explained that the government has no intention of using the funds to fill stores with nonessential goods. Ghanaians, he said, must set their priorities right in order to direct the country's resources to the building of a sound foundation for economic recovery.

Coup in Nigeria Considered 'Political Reawakening'

AB201525 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 20 Jan 84

[From the Press Review]

[Text] In a front-page article entitled "Will Nigeria Go the Ghanaian Way for Positive National Recovery?" a political analyst of the *PEOPLE'S EVENING NEWS* draws a similarity between Ghana's 31 December 1981 revolution and the military takeover in Nigeria on 31 December last year. The analyst says it was a civilian PNP [People's National Party] administration like Nigeria's, under the leadership of President Hilla Limann, that was toppled by the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] to usher Ghana into the present era.

African countries, the *EVENING NEWS* observes, will no doubt see the Nigerian coup not only as an imitation of Ghana's last military coup d'etat but also as the beginning of a political reawakening in Africa. The analyst says, announcing the takeover on 31 December 1981, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings predicted that other African countries would definitely follow Ghana's footsteps; and true to his word, within 2 years Upper Volta and Nigeria have followed suit.

Captain Sankara, who led the coup in Upper Volta in August last year, has already made clear his intention to undertake a cleaning up of his country; and the new Nigerian military leader, Major General Buhari, has promised a clean and efficient administration after toppling what he called a corrupt, inept, and insensitive civilian regime.

The political analyst of the *EVENING NEWS* ends by saying: For the sake of our Nigerian brothers and sisters, it is hoped that those who have taken it upon themselves to reshape the destiny of their people mean what they say. He hopes they are not making worthless statements in the style of many of the regimes which Nigeria has seen before, but that they intend to lead our neighbor to a transformation which will make social justice a reality.

Commentary on Herzog Visit to African Countries

AB200730 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Jan 84

[From the feature: "Newsreel"]

[Text] The President of Israel, Mr Herzog, is reported to have arrived in Kinshasa for a state visit to Zaire. Later, he goes to

Liberia and Swaziland [as received]. GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation] political correspondent David Anaglate assesses the background to the visit. We read you that assessment of the significance of the Isareli president's visit to three African countries.

Mr Herzog's visit to Zaire, Liberia and Swaziland follows the three African countries' resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel last year. Most African countries broke off relations with Israel after the 1973 Arab-Israeli war on the grounds that by occupying part of Egyptian territory, Israel was occupying a piece of African land and this was unacceptable to the Organization of African Unity which then took the decision that all member states should break off relations with Israel.

But Israel's occupation of Egyptian territory was not the only reason; for if it were so, the fact that the Egyptian Sinai and other areas have been returned to Egypt following the signing of the Camp David agreement seems to remove any further cause for continued isolation of Israel. But apart from Israel's crimes against humanity in its treatment of our Arab brothers, we must add the fact that Israel is (?presently) collaborating with racist South Africa in developing new methods of oppression. No doubt the two countries see themselves as being in the same plight, Pretoria having to suppress 20 million blacks to whom it has denied all basic human and political rights. Israel sees herself in the same plight with a [word indistinct] Palestinian population under its control in the West Bank, Jerusalem, and other occupied lands and (?has its scheme) to expand further to occupy more Arab lands.

South Africa and Israel are reported to have been engaged in the search in developing the latest weapons of mass control. It is because of this that African countries still think the time is not right to resume relations with Israel, in spite of the so-called economic aid that Israel dangles before the eyes of poor African countries. Many of these countries point out that the Arab states have not reciprocated Africa's support by giving them enough economic aid. This of course may be a valid point. But other Africans think first of their dignity as black men and refuse to have anything to do with Israel so long as it collaborates with Pretoria in its oppression of their kith and kin in South Africa. That is why the action by Liberia and Zaire to resume relations with Israel has not been followed by any other African state and is likely to remain an isolated action by two delinquent states which [words indistinct] policy laid down by the OAU.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Prison Sentences Reduced To Mark Anniversary

AB230845 Paris AFP in English 1153 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Bissau, Jan 23 (AFP) — The government [word indistinct] decided to cut the sentences of most prisoners condemned to hard labour by two-thirds to mark the 11th anniversary of the assassination of Amilcar Cabral, former secretary general of the Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde (PAIGC). The measure affects crimes of minor assault, dishonesty, insulting behaviour, defamation, slander, insubordination, vandalism and lack of respect for the law, but not robbery, rape or homicide. One of those who will benefit is Armando Ramos, trade minister under former President Luis Cabral, who has served three years of an eight year sentence for dishonesty.

LIBERIA

Officials Must Surrender U.S. Residence Permits

AB201710 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The head of state, Commander in Chief Samuel K. Doe, has given all government officials with United States resident permits to surrender them to the Foreign Ministry in Monrovia by the end of this month [sentence as heard]. Failure on their part to do so, the head of state said, will leave the government with no alternative but to dismiss such officials and have them prosecuted for double standards of loyalty and conflict of interest.

He said no one in possession of permanent U.S. resident permits will be employed unless he or she turns in same to the Foreign Ministry and obtains a written acknowledgment to that effect from that ministry. The Liberian leader noted that it is imperative that government officials declare their allegiance and loyalty to one source so as to avoid double standards, which is against the national interest.

Decree Converts Bomi From Territory to County

AB211035 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The ruling People's Redemption Council has issued Decree No. 80 repealing the act which created the territory of Bomi.

The decree creates a new county to be known as Bomi County. The decree states that the act [words indistinct] an act creating the area comprising the Lofa, Gola, Gbe, and Lefa chiefdoms, the territory of Bomi, Montserrado County, and providing for the government of the same between 1 April 1956 and published 8 April 1956 is hereby repealed.

The decree which takes immediate effect revealed that the said county should be entitled to such senators, representatives and other elected officials to be prescribed and determined in common with other counties of the Republic of Liberia. Under the decree, the head of state shall appoint for the government of the said county a superintendent and all other officials who [words indistinct] for the smooth operation of that county and its officials.

MALI

Minister Appeals to UN Delegation for Aid

AB191130 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The members of the government and a UN delegation yesterday afternoon held a working session in the cabinet meeting

hall at Koulouba. The Malian delegation was led by Minister of State for Economy and Planning Oumar Coulibaly, while the UN delegation was headed by Adebayo Adedeji, UN assistant secretary general and executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa.

During this meeting, Minister of State Oumar Coulibaly painted a gloomy picture of Mali, a picture resulting from the present international situation as well as from the drought affecting Mali for the past 10 years. Oumar Coulibaly, in the name of all the Malian people, reiterated his urgent appeal for international aid to and solidarity with the peoples of the Sahel region.

For his part, UN assistant Secretary General Adebayo Adedeji expressed his conviction that his visit will have positive results.

NIGER

Perez de Cuellar Arrives To Assess Economy, Drought

AB201025 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Excerpt] After visiting Mali, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived in Niamey this afternoon within the framework of his African tour. Mr de Cuellar, who was accompanied by his wife, was welcomed at the Niamey International Airport by Prime Minister Hamid Algabit and his wife. The UN secretary general and his wife were later presented to the members of the Supreme Military Council and the government, as well as to the members of the diplomatic corps and international organizations. Receiving the press afterward, the UN secretary general paid tribute to our country's policy within the international organization before explaining the purpose of his visit to Niger.

[Begin De Cuellar recording] The purpose of my visit is well known. It is twofold: First, it is aimed at paying tribute to member countries, like Niger, which participate actively in the deliberations of the United Nations, and especially in its efforts to maintain peace in the world; and secondly, to take stock of and to evaluate with the Niger authorities the economic and social situation they are confronted with, especially the [word indistinct] climactic conditions, and of course, the international economic situation. I therefore hope to draw the maximum benefit from my discussions with the Niger authorities. [end recording]

Replying to a question on whether he had a particular plan to help arrest the situation prevailing in the countries hit by the drought, and more particularly in the West African region, Perez de Cuellar said:

[Begin De Cuellar recording] What I did to that effect is that before leaving New York, I met with representatives of some African countries and the donor countries so as to establish a firsthand contact. This is aimed at drawing their attention to the problems of Africa — Africa's economic problems; and I hope, on return from this tour, to hold a second meeting with the fund donors in order to see what we can do together. I am counting a lot — as I have just said — on drawing the maximum benefit from this tour in order to hear the views of the different governments, and to see what their priorities are and how the United Nations can help them, and also encourage the donor countries to give coherent and massive help to the African countries. [end recording]

Meets With Kountche

AB201405 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Continuing his official visit to our country, Mr Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, had a meeting this morning with General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state. After that meeting, Mr Perez de Cuellar and the prime minister, Hamid Algabit, visited the ICDCS [Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel] regional training center for agriculture, meteorology, and hydrology specialists and the (Opeven) warehouse on the road to Ouallam. Finally, he met with the chairman of the National Development Council, Mamane Oumarou.

NIGERIA

Buhari Calls For Citizens' Cooperation With Military

AB211305 Lagos NAN in English 1222 GMT 21 Jan

[Text] Jos, Jan 21 (NAN) — The head of the Federal Military Government, Major Gen. Muhammadu Buhari, today in Jos called on students throughout the country to appreciate the importance of self-reliance as an integral part of nation building.

Speaking at the sixth graduation ceremony of the University of Jos, Major Gen. Buhari said that the country demanded from students "absolute commitment to the course of nation building, hard work, honesty, integrity, dedication to duty, perseverance and self-discipline." He advised the students to devote more time to their studies and avoid unnecessary confrontation with the authorities, adding that "no one can deny them the right to air their views provided they did so constitutionally. It will be a great disservice to themselves, their parents and the nation if they should develop negative attitudes to their studies and resort to unnecessary demonstration and vandalism," he said.

He said that his administration was irrevocably committed to giving the country a new lease of life and sense of direction and called on the citizens of the country to cooperate with the military. The address was read on his behalf by the Plateau governor, Navy Capt. Samuel Atukum.

Government Will Continue To Support UNESCO

AB201712 Lagos NAN English 1650 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 20 (NAN) — The head of state, Maj.-Gen. Muhammaduu Buhari, said in Lagos today that Nigeria would continue to assist UNESCO. Gen. Buhari said this while exchanging views with the UNESCO director-general, Mr. Amadou Mactar M'bow, who paid him a courtesy call at the Dodan Barracks. He said that the Federal Military Government

was happy to receive the director general because Nigeria attached great importance to UNESCO.

Mr. M'Bow thanked the Federal Military Government for the cooperation it had extended to the organisation and promised that it would continue to help developing nations by drawing the attention of the industrialised countries to their plight and aspirations. He said that UNESCO would also assist to bridge the gap between developed and developing countries in science and technology and promote cultural awareness among all nations.

The UNESCO director-general arrived in Lagos yesterday for a four-day official visit to Nigeria.

Sudan Reaffirms Solidarity; Guinea's Toure To Visit

AB210946 Lagos NAN in English 0840 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 20 (NAN) — Sudan has re-affirmed its solidarity with the Federal Military Government, according to a statement in Lagos today at the end of the two-day official visit of President Ja'far Numayri.

The statement said that President Numayri and his host, Maj.-Gen. Muhammadu Buhari, held fraternal discussions on a wide range of issues, including the recent change of government in Nigeria. The two leaders, the statement said, also discussed exchanges in cultural areas as well as cooperation in the areas of agriculture and irrigation. They also discussed the situation in Chad as well as other problems confronting the OAU, such as the Western Sahara, Namibia and apartheid.

Meanwhile, President Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea is expected in Lagos on Sunday on a three-day official visit. A programme of the visit released in Lagos today showed that the Guinean leader would be met on arrival at Murtala Muhammed airport, Ikeja, by his Nigerian counterpart, Maj.-Gen. Muhammadu Buhari. Both leaders are expected to hold two rounds of talks during the visit.

On Monday, President Kerekou [name as received] will visit the Aladja steel company in Bendel and return to Lagos later in the day.

Jumbo Loan Payment, Refinancing Talks Noted

AB210840 Lagos NAN in English 0832 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 20 (NAN) — Nigeria has repaid 124 million dollars (N92 million) on her jumbo European loan raised in 1978, the permanent secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance, Alhaji Abubakar Alhaji, said in Lagos today. He told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that the repayment was made duly on Jan. 16.

He said that Nigeria was committed to meeting its international obligations as and when due, to sustain the confidence of its financial, banking and trading patners. He confirmed that a team of Nigerian officials, including himself and the governor of the Central Bank, Alhaji Abdul-Kadir Ahmed, would be leaving Lagos for London tomorrow to resume negotiations with export credit agencies over the re-financing of the backlog of trade payments estimated at 5.5 billion dollars (about N4.1 billion).

He said that the talks would last four days, describing talks earlier concluded with major private creditors as very constructive.

Economic Efficiency of Military Government Touted

AB201535 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government will now save more than 90.1 million naira from the annual cost of running the presidential system of government. A breakdown of the figures shows that the maintenance of the National Assembly alone cost this government over 43 million naira, while the Federal Electoral Commission recorded more than 45 million naira as overhead cost.

Giving these details in Lagos yesterday, the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, said the office of special advisers to the ousted president spent 331,338 naira annually. The chief of staff stated that the annual consolidated revenue fund charges for the presidency amounted to 139,879 naira.

FMG Says 7 Million Naira Recovered From Companies

AB200915 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government has recovered about 7 million naira from three companies. The money was to have been siphoned overseas without any intention to bring back any goods. Announcing this at the briefing of media executives in Lagos yesterday the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, named the companies as Canco Nigeria Ltd, Manpari Nigeria Ltd, and Waco Nigeria Ltd. The money recovered was in American dollars. Brig Idiagbon also stated that the military authorities were in possession of two shiploads of rice valued at 2.1 million naira. He added that two other ships loaded with rice were waiting to berth at the port. He explained that such food items would be distributed for sale to all parts of the country through reputable companies.

Ministry To Cancel All 'Lofty, Flamboyant' Contracts

AB201520 Lagos NAN in English 1515 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 20 (NAN) — The Federal Ministry of Works and Housing is to review or cancel "all lofty and flamboyant contracts", the minister in charge of the ministry, Dr E.A. Nsan, said in Lagos yesterday. Addressing officials of the ministry, Dr. Nsan said that the government was in a hurry to rescue the nation from economic ruins and urged them to be dedicated and efficient. He warned the officials not to think of "10 percent kickbacks" when awarding contracts, but to be prudent in all their undertakings. Dr. Nsan advised the officials to adopt an open-door policy in order to achieve good results.

Idiagbon Explains Reasons for Closing Borders

AB200910 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The closure of borders by Nigeria is not aimed at inconveniencing her neighbors. The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, told a delegation from Benin Republic at Dodan Barracks yesterday that the borders remained closed to prevent wanted persons from sneaking out of the country. He said the government is aware of the socioeconomic problems facing the country's neighbors as a result of the closure but called for patience and understanding. Earlier, the 4-man Beninese delegation had urged the Federal Military Government to do all within its power to strengthen the existing relations between Nigeria and the Benin Republic.

Full Names of Newly Appointed Ministers Reported

AB201431 Lagos NAN in English 1015 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 18 (NAN) — All the 18 newly appointed ministers were today in Lagos sworn in by the head of state, Maj-Gen. Muhammadu Buhari, at Dodan Barracks.

The portfolios of the ministers, who now constitute the Federal Executive Council, are: Maj-Gen. Domkat Bali (defence), Maj-Gen. Mamman Vatsa (Federal Capital Territory), Brig. Mohammed Magoro (internal affairs), Brig. Solomon Omojokun (labour, employment and productivity), Commodore Patrick Koshoni (health), Group Capt. Samson Emeka Omeruah (information, youth, culture and sports), Lt-Col. Ahmed Abdullahi (communications), Mr. Chike Ofodile (justice and attorney-general), and Alhaji Ibrahim Abdullahi (education, science and technology).

Others include Alhaji Abdullahi Ibrahim (transport and aviation), Dr. Bukar Shaib (agriculture and water resources), Dr. Mahmud 'Tukur (commerce and industries), Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman (mines, power and steel), Dr. Ibrahim Gambari (external affairs), Dr. Onaolapo Soleye (finance), Chief Michael Sunday Adigun (national planning), Prof. Tam David-West (petroleum and energy) and Dr. Emmanuel Nyong Nsan (works and housing).

Also sworn in at the ceremony were the chief press secretary to the head of state, Malam Wada Maida, and the principal secretary to the head of state, Alhaji Abubakar Mamu.

Bendel Governor Speaks to Detained Officials

AB201231 Lagos NAN in English 1158 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Bendel, Jan. 20 (NAN) — Ex-office holders detained in Bendel were last Wednesday assured by the state military governor, Brig. Jeremiah Useni, that their detention was a normal military clearance procedure.

Brig. Useni, who was speaking when he visited the detainees at the former legislators quarters in Benin, said that anyone found guilty would be punished.

One of the detained political office holders, ex-attorney general and commissioner for justice, Mr. Benson Obasuyi, told the governor that they were well looked after. Those detained who are mainly former officials of Ali's administration included Mr. Sam Iredia, Mr. B. Obasuyi, Dr. T. Ohikhena, Mr. Festus Ekeruche, Chief Idodo Umeh, Chief S.A. Salubi, Mr. Jim Akhere, Mr. Francis Isibur, and Mrs. Verica Bamuza.

SENEGAL

Diouf Gives Reasons for Supporting Egypt at ICO

AB201210 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] President Abdou Diouf returned to Dakar yesterday evening. This is what he had to say on the readmission of Egypt into the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO].

[Begin Diouf recording] We discussed this issue for 2 consecutive days. At the time I left the conference, the issue was still being discussed. You know the arguments brought up for and against this question. The position of Senegal was clear: We knew that it was a very difficult question, but we felt that the present Egyptian regime needed assistance, because the present regime, that of President Husni Mubarak, has showed that it is a regime of goodwill which wants to join us in the pursuance of the objectives that we have set within the Islamic Conference.

We do not say that at the present it fulfills all the obligations defined in the charter as well as the resolutions which we have voted within the Islamic Conference. We only say that as compared to the past, this regime seems to be going in the right direction and at this stage we have to make a choice. Either we refuse to admit it into the Islamic Conference and thus discourage this apparent goodwill which is to some extent real, or we make a bet, an optimistic bet, that when Egypt is reintegrated, it will pursue its goals more in line with the objectives of the Islamic Conference. This bet is what the Senegalese delegation finally made, and this is the reason why we supported the Egypt's request for readmission into the Islamic Conference. [end recording]

SIERRA LEONE

Stevens Creates Inquiry Commission on Disturbances

AB202000 Paris AFP in English 1800 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Freetown, Jan 20 (AFP) -- A commission of inquiry into disturbances by students of Sierra Leone's FourahBay College was set up today by President Siaka Stevens.The five-member commission's brief is to investigate the cause of disturbances at the trouble-prone college since September 1980 and to make recommendations. The college was closed downon January 12 after the latest disturbances, amid widespread disorder in the West African state.

Swearing in the members of the commission, President Stevens expressed delight that "very responsible people in the community" had agreed to serve on it on short notice. "No doubt you

will look into the matter very carefully and report as early as possible so that government can take action," he told them.

Commission Chairman Mr. Justice Sheikh Mohamed Fadril-Kutubu told President Stevens that he and members of his commission realised the national importance of the probe and would conduct their business "without fear or favour."

TOGO

Upper Volta's Sankara Arrives, Meets With Eyadema

AB201407 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Upper Voltan head of state and chairman of the National Council of the Revolution arrived at Niamtougou at midday today. He was met there by General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People.

Departure Noted

AB211110 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Captain Thomas Sankara, Upper Volta head of state and chairman of the National Defense Council of the Upper Voltan revolution, left for Ouagadougou this evening after holding lenghty talks at Kara with General Gnassingbe Eyadema, who hosted a luncheon in his honor.

UPPER VOLTA

Council of Ministers Adopts 'Balanced' Budget

AB201032 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpts] At its meeting on Wednesday, 18 January 1984, the Council of Ministers, presided over by head of state Thomas Sankara, examined and adopted the following:

Concerning the Ministry of Finance, the Council adopted the ordinance on the state budget for 1984.

Minister of Justice Raymond Poda, acting for the minister of information as government spokesman, gave a statement on the budget:

[Begin Poda recording] The 1984 budget, which has just been adopted, is balanced in revenue and expenditures at 57,622,146 CFA francs. [end recording]

Reportage on RSA, Angola Talks at Cape Verde

U.S. Representative Reportedly Attends

AB202145 Paris AFP in English 1909 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Praia, Cape Verde, Jan 20 (AFP) — Talks took place today between South African and Angolan delegations at Mindelo, on Sao Vicente Island north of here, an informed source said here today. There was no precise indication of the subject of the talks, but observers believed they concerned a possible truce between the two states.

An Angolan delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Venancio da Moura arrived in Praia yesterday ostensibly to (?hand over) a letter to Cape Verdian President Aristides Pereira from Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos.

Last night Angolan representatives had their first meeting with two high South African, an informed source said. [sentence as received] A second meeting took place today with the reported attendance of a representative from the United States State Department, whose arrival was reported Thursday.

Yesterday, South African Foreign Minister Roelof "Pik" Botha said that a senior Pretoria official, Dave Steward, had gone to Cape Verde for discussions with the government there and had returned to South Africa to [word indistinct].

The Cape Verde Government has maintained a tight silence over the meetings between the South African and Angolan representatives, claiming that it is only the host and not a mediator in the southern African conflict.

Heavy U.S. Involvement Depicted

LD210015 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2300 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Despite repeated denials, ANOP correspondent in Cape Verde (Leston Bandeira), has managed irrefutably to establish that tripartite talks are taking place between Angola, American and South African officials. Minutes ago we received this report from (Leston Bandeira), the man who managed to break through the wall of secrecy around the Mindelo talks:

Tripartite talks are taking place in the town of Mindelo between U.S., Angolan, and South African delegations. Both Washington and Pretoria have denied it, but the talks are really taking place. The Cape Verde authorities too will not confirm it and have actually staged a piece of counterinformation in the form of a news conference with Angolan Deputy Foreign Minister Venancio da Moura to deny an earlier ANOP report mentioning the possibility of talks being held in Cape Verde on the conflict opposing South Africa and Angola.

The evidence seems to leave no room for doubt. There have been busy comings and goings by diplomats — both local and foreign — in Cape Verde. And there is not the slightest doubt that U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for African Affairs Frank Wisner is in Mindelo. Nor is there any doubt concerning the presence of Angolan Interior Minister Alexandre Rodrigues Kito, Deputy Foreign Minister Venancio da Moura, and Angolan Ambassador to the UN Elisio de Figueiredo.

South African Ambassador to the UN David Steward was in the city of Praia for a few hours before returning to Johannesburg. Pretoria used this as an argument to deny the presence of South African officials at the talks, but the fact remains that of the four-man South African delegation only two returned home. The other two are in Sao Vicente Island.

From the information I have gathered, I am in a position to say that the talks are more between the United States and Angola than between Angola and South Africa. But the South Africans are here, even if only as observers.

If the Mindelo talks are successful, I believe that all will be made clear in a matter of days. We believe that one of the purposes of the talks is the establishment of a specific schedule for future talks between Angolan and South African delegations, and also as a step toward the establishment of relations between the United States and Angola.

Angolan Good Faith Stressed

MB210727 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] A personal message from Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the party and president of the Republic, will be handed to President Aristides Pereira of Cape Verde. The bearer of the message from the Angolan head of state is Comrade Venancio da Moura, our country's deputy foreign minister, who has been in Praia, the Cape Verdian capital, since the day before yesterday.

In that fraternal country, Comrade Venancio da Moura will also study with Cape Verdian authorities some cooperation agreements, and it is expected that a convention will be signed between the two countries.

It is worth noting that the day before yesterday, the Angolan deputy foreign minister held a press conference for the Cape Verdian media, during which he reaffirmed the readiness of Angola to defend peaceful coexistence between states, regardless of ideological options. We are, as we have always been, ready for a dialogue with South Africa, the Angolan official said. He added that the belligerent attitude fo racist South Africa has prevented the achievement of satisfactory results.

ANGOLA

RSA 'Carrot, Stick' Tactics Excoriated

MB201830 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] In a bid to establish a climate of peace in southern Africa, the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau reaffirmed, in its statement on the 23d anniversary of the beginning of the armed

struggle of national liberation, the possibility of establishing a cease-fire period of 30 days provided, as stated in the letter of the president of the People's Republic of Angola to the UN secretary general, SWAPO agreed to the proposal and South Africa withdraws its military units from Angolan territory and openly pledges to begin the implementation of Resolution 435/78 in the following 15 days without introducing elements alien to its contents.

In view of the readiness of the People's Republic of Angola and the agreement that SWAPO has already given to the proposal, all South Africa has to do now is to openly respond on the subject and renounce once and for all its cynicism. Angola has given more than enough evidence of its spirit of goodwill in search for a peaceful and internationally accepted settlement to the Namibian issue. This is in contrast to the policy of the Pretoria regime, which continues to resort to the carrot and stick tactic while saying that it wants to negotiate on peace. This is intended to confuse public opinion while, at the same time, the regime carries out large-scale surprise operations aimed at annihilating our military units. With this tactic used by South Africa, in spite of all its hypocritical expressions of a wish for peace, the situation in our region will naturally face even graver dangers to peace and stability, not only on the continent but also internationally. We are effectively ready to negotiate. However, before anything else it is imperative that international principles be respected by everyone and that the UN resolutions be implemented.

It should be recalled that the latest resolution of the UN Security Council strongly condemned racist South Africa for the illegal occupation of our territory. It called for an end to all acts of aggression against our country and reaffirmed the right of the People's Republic of Angola, in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter, to take any measures aimed at safeguarding its sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity. In this context, the visit by Peter Onu, the OAU acting secretary general who has been in our country since yesterday with the aim of gathering information on the damage caused by the recent armed incursions by South Africa for a study of aid to be given to the Angolan people by the continental body, assumes great significance.

Speaking in Addis Ababa shortly before departure, Peter Onu said that his visit to Angola is designed to hold consultations with our authorities to gather information on the effects of the South Africa aggression and to consider the kind of assistance to be given to the People's Republic of Angola by the OAU. He also said that Ethiopian head of state Mengistu Haile Mariam, the OAU chairman, had decided to send him to Angola because of the new South African invasion of our country, where Pretoria's troops are still maintaining their positions despite the recent resolution approved by the UN Security Council calling for their total withdrawal.

Onu-led OAU Delegation Arrives, Meets Dos Santos

MB201730 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] This morning at Futungo do Belas in Luanda, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, received an OAU delegation headed by Peter Onu, the acting secretary general of the organization. Peter Onu arrived in our country yesterday to acquaint himself with the damage caused by the recent South African armed incursions in connection with a study of the assistance to be granted to the Angolan Government.

The visit of the OAU acting secretary general shows the concern of the organization over the new wave of violence that is being inflicted on the free and sovereign state of Angola and is a tacit recognition of the justness of the cause defended by the Angolan people, who enjoy the sympathy of broad progressive circles all over the world. Carlos Fernandes, the state secretary for cooperation, attended the audience.

Departure Noted

MB221020 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The acting secretary general of the OAU, Peter Onu, left Luanda yesterday after meeting with our authorities on the damage which has been inflicted on our country by the recent South African incursions.

During his stay in our country, Peter Onu was received by the president of the republic, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, and by the secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for Foreign Affairs, Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos expressed gratitude for the initiative taken by the acting OAU secretary general in showing interest in the difficult situation facing the Angolan people as a result of the systematic acts of aggression by the Pretoria regime, as well as his for dedication in studying the matter.

The presence of the South African troops in southern Angola and the settlement of the Namibian problem were also discussed during the meeting.

Portuguese Politicians Seen Supporting 'Traitors'

AB200820 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The Portuguese daily *O DIARIO* in an article entitled: "Conspiracy Against Angola and Mozambique — Firm Roots in Portugal," contended that puppet organizations based in Lisbon maintain contacts with the diplomatic corps and powerful Portuguese political figures. The newspaper exposed that Angolan traitors like Daniel Chipenda, Santos, and Castro keep contacts with functionaries of the racist South African Embassy in Lisbon, and members of certain parties like the Socialists, Social Democrats, and the Centralist Social Democrats.

O DIARIO recalled that during a press conference last April Wilson Santos, UNITA's representative, said that besides the PS-CDS coalition government the Socialist Party and its secretary general, Mario Soares, agreed that UNITA is free to express itself in Portugal. The daily added that South African agents, along with a CIA official in charge of Africa, are holding working meetings in Lisbon. [passage indistinct]

O DIARIO condemned the sinister role played by the newly created NEWS AGENCY OF PORTUGAL in promoting a collapse of Portuguese relations with African states following an independent development policy. The newspaper observed that the Portuguese Ministry of Internal Administration has never taken any measures against elements hostile to the People's Republic of Angola.

O DIARIO concluded by recalling that last October Portuguese police detained an MPLA-Labor Party leader, accusing him of deserting the Portuguese Army in 1971.

UNITA Repeats Offer To Free Czechoslovak Hostages

NC201737 Paris AFP in English 1731 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Lisbon, Jan 20 (AFP) — The rebel Angolan movement UNITA today repeated that it intended to free 20 Czechoslovak nationals it has been holding hostage since last March and whose physical and moral condition, it said, was "deteriorating considerably".

In a statement to the AFP office here, UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) recalled that its conditions for the hostages' release — exchange for seven British mercenaries and some 30 UNITA fighters held in Luanda — had already been presented to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva.

It called on "all interested parties" to establish contacts with UNITA with a view to reaching agreement on the matter. The Czechoslovak Government, which has asked several countries to mediate, has secured the release of only 45 of a total of 66 of its citizens captured at Alto Catumbela on March 12. One of them died in the course of a forced march of 1,300 kms (about 800 miles) to the main UNITA base in southern Angola.

(The British mercenaries were jailed by the Angolan Government for their part in the civil war that followed Angolan independence in 1975.)

The 45 — including 21 children, 17 women and seven men — were released last June after 109 days in captivity and handed over to the ICRC together with 10 Portuguese captured at the same time.

According to a British journalist quoted a few weeks ago by Radio Prague, the 20 still held were unhappy with their food and with being kept in isolation. The report said they were living in twos in shacks and were still in the same clothes they were wearing when they were taken prisoner.

In October a UNITA official, Jeremias Chitunda, said in Paris that the hostages' fate was "linked with the evolution of the war" which UNITA has been fighting since November 1975 against the authorities in Luanda.

According to UNITA and Western diplomatic sources, the rebels led by Jonas Savimbi control a third of the country and are extending their influence toward the north and west.

UNITA has several times issued warnings to foreigners on the risk they run by staying in combat zones in Angola.

UNITA Says MPLA Distributing Poisoned Food

MB201350 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Station commentary from the "Soldiers Program"]

[Text] Angolan people, combatants of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA], the hour of victory long announced by UNITA is very close. The people in townships, villages, and towns must be very careful, because the MPLA intends to leave victims in its wake. It intends to bring death to the people and to distribute poisoned foodstuffs to the residents of townships, villages, and cities. The MPLA is poisoning bread, canned food, medicines, foodstuffs, and water.

Soldiers and people, if you find food in enemy posts — in posts or villages abandoned by the People's Armed Forces for the liberation of Angola [FAPLA] — you must not touch any cans, salt, or medicines left behind that have been poisoned by FAPLA. Foodstuffs abandoned by the enemies of the Angolan people — who, as we all know, are the Cubans, the MPLA, and FAPLA — must not be touched, as it has been boobytrapped. Be very careful, Angolan people. Do not touch anything which has been left in MPLA posts, on roads, or on trails.

Comrades, the MPLA does not want to flee without leaving behind some dead FALA soldiers and people of townships, villages, and towns. Our watchword is vigilance and discipline. We have to be vigilant now that the MPLA knows that it will be defeated. An enemy in despair is more dangerous. The murderous and criminal MPLA is defeated and now wants to kill the Angolan people with poison.

The hour of victory for UNITA is near. We alert everyone to the maneuvers of the Soviets, Cubans, and the MPLA, who want to worsen the suffering of the Angolan people all over the country. Angolan people, be vigilant. Brave FALA combatants, be vigilant. Victory is near.

The struggle will triumph. United around Comrade President Dr Savimbi we shall win.

MOZAMBIQUE

Minister Returns After Securing EEC, Oxfam Aid

MB211324 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] The EEC has given Mozambique an additional $2 and 1/2 million in aid, or about 100,000 contos. This was revealed by Aranda da Silva, minister of home trade, who returned to Maputo this morning after visiting Britain, France, and the EEC Headquarters in Brussels.

Minister Aranda da Silva told the news media that Oxfam, a British nongovernmental organization, also gave our country additional aid of 30,000 contos in seeds.

The visit by the minister of home trade to Europe was aimed at mobilizing European public opinion to support drought victims in our country. It was in this context that Minister Aranda da Silva held meetings with governmental and nongovernmental organizations during his 3-week visit to Europe.

U.S. Reportedly To Increase Emergency Food Aid

MB201600 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] White House sources said in Washington today that U.S President Ronald Reagan intends to increase U.S. emergency food aid to African countries, particularly Mozambique. President Reagan asked the Agency for International Development to make arrangements to effectively and quickly deliver food aid to people needing it, the White House sources said.

Ronald Reagan gave the instructions after talks with Senator John Danforth, who has just returned to Washington after a 2-week visit to seven African countries, including Mozambique, Somalia, Senegal. Senator Danforth said in a television interview that he had asked President Reagan to release about $200 million. He cited Mozambique as a place where, according to him, he found a situation which is a total disaster, characterized by aspects of total starvation which threaten to decimate 300,000 people.

The White House sources, however, said that President Reagan had not yet decided on the sum, but was deeply touched by the information that Senator Danforth had given him. Presidential spokesman Larry Speakes said that more than $32 million had already been released this month to send 73,000 tons of food to famine-stricken countries.

MNR, USSR Reach Agreement on Releasing 14 Hostages

NC211437 Paris AFP in English 1433 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Lisbon, Jan 21 (AFP) — The Mozambique Resistance Movement (MNR) has reached agreement with the Soviet Union on the freeing of 14 Soviets held hostage by the guerrillas since last August, an MNR spokesman said here today. The spokesman for the South African-backed rebels said negotiations between Soviet and MNR representatives had taken place in a neutral country, which he would not name. He also refused to reveal the terms of the agreement, reached after three months of talks. The spokesman said the Soviets would be released as soon as the Mozambique Government agreed to a "temporary ceasefire" with the guerrillas that would allow the hostages to be handed over safely to the International Red Cross. The 14 hostages were among 24 Soviets kidnapped by the MNR during an operation against jewel mines at Morrua, in the northern province of Zambezia. Two were freed a month later and the MNR claims the other eight died following attacks by the Mozambican Army on the guerrilla camps where they were held.

NAMIBIA

Van Niekerk Laments Need for Military Expenditures

MB201332 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1319 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Windhoek, Jan 20, SAPA — If SWAPO stopped its programme of violence, money spent on military operations such as Askari could be used for much-needed development projects in fields such as education and health services, the administrator-general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said today.

"For the first time last year more than 80 percent of the people in South-West Africa between the ages of seven and 18 attended schools, which is a remarkable achievement when seen in the African context," he said. "But crowded classrooms, particularly at primary school levels, remain a problem."

Dr van Niekerk, who will have been in office a year at the end of the month, told SAPA that the worldwide economic recession and the drought in SWA/Namibia had slowed down development of essential services in the past 12 months.

"Nevertheless, we succeeded in bringing down inflation and sustaining the administrative infrastructure."

Problems that would have to be met in the short term included revitalising SWA/Namibia's sources of revenue, such as the mining industry — which at one stage accounted for 60 percent of the territory's income — agriculture, fishing and tourism.

Dr van Niekerk said that a SWA/Namibian tourist office would open in Johannesburg in March.

He added that government and private sector representatives would meet later this year to compile guidelines for a national development strategy.

"It is part of a continuing process to prepare the country for independence."

Dr van Niekerk said military operations such as the recent Askari should not be viewed in a SWA/Namibian context alone "but in the entire southern African regional context."

He said such operations were taxing capital and manpower resources.

"It is expensive and we all know it. If there was no Marxist movement such as SWAPO we could have used the money for other purposes."

Nevertheless, behind the military shield a climate was being established in SWA/Namibia which was relatively free of terror and violence to promote political and constitutional development.

Dr van Niekerk said South Africa was an integral part of Africa, whereas "surrogate forces" in Angola were not.

"There is no way that you can describe the Cubans as being part of Africa."

South Africa's insistence on a Cuban pull-out from Angola as a condition for a SWA/Namibian peace setttlement was based on the premise that the territory, "as a newly independent state, can hardly be expected to cope with Soviet surrogate forces" on its doorstep, Dr van Niekerk said.

The MPLA government came to power in Angola more than eight years ago without having been voted into office.

"They (the international community) are pressuring us for elections in terms of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435, but nobody is saying a word about elections in Angola," Dr van Niekerk said.

The persistent absence of a popularly elected government gave rise to disatisfaction among the Angolan people which flared into civil war.

The MPLA's war with UNITA and other governments was entirely an Angolan affair, but peace and stability in that country would benefit all of southern Africa.

"Let them send the Cubans home and call elections to determine which party has popular support," Dr van Niekerk said.

Measures Being Taken To Fill Administrative Gaps

MB201339 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The adminstrator general of South-West Africa, Dr Willie van Niekerk, has confirmed that he is negotiating adminstrative measures with representative authorities to fill gaps in second-level government in the araa. The deficiencies were pointed out by the Thirion Commission, which concluded that the proclamations governing relations between central and second-level government were creating ambiguities and unnecessary legislation. The Commission also recommended that a definite line be drawn between the legislative authorities of the two government levels.

4 SWAPO Guerrillas Said Killed by Security Forces

MB220753 Johannesburg International Service in English
0630 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The officer commanding the South-West Africa Territory Force, Major General George Meiring, says security forces have shot and killed four SWAPO terrorists who had been hiding in the (Mangeti) Block District in northern South-West Africa/Namibia. In a statement issued in Windhoek, Gen Meiring said the four terrorists were tracked down and killed after a brief skirmish.

SOUTH AFRICA

U.S. Policy Changes Toward RSA Considered Unlikely

MB230600 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The former U.S. ambassador at the United Nations, Mr Don McHenry, says basic American policy on South Africa will not change much if there is a change in administration in the coming presidential election. Taking part in a South African Broadasting Corporation radio program, he said that there could be a change in the way in which the policy was applied, but the United States could not dictate to South Africa.

Another participant in the program, Mrs Helen Kitchen, a director of the Georgetown Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, said that the United States could apply only limited pressure on South Africa, and that American policies were long-term. The chairman of the World Peace Foundation in Boston, Professor (Richard Ulman), said that the Reagan administration's interest in southern Africa stemmed from what he termed the administration's alarmist view of the Soviet threat. The administration regarded what he called the insurgent movements against South Africa as tools of Moscow's foreign policy.

Two South Africans taking part in the program praised the American policy of constructive engagement. Mr Donald Sole, a former ambassador to the United States, said that the policy reflected a considered approach to the problems of southern Africa. The description "constructive engagement" was commended by the leader of the opposition, Dr van Zyl Slabbert, who said that constructive was far preferable to nonconstructive.

The chief executive of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, Dr (Simon Brandt), said he was confident that if the United States were to abandon constructive engagement in favor of more hostile policies — including support for sanctions — South Africa would be able to weather the storm, as it had shown that it could cope. However, this was not true of its neighboring states, and for them the consequences could be very serious.

Opposition Caucus Meets With Homeland Leaders

MB201850 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans
1400 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The parliamentary caucus of the official opposition has held discussion in Cape Town with the leaders of three black national states. The meeting, led by the caucus chairman of the Progressive Federal Party, Mr Colin Eglin, was attended by Gazankulu Chief Minister Professor Ntsanwisi; Qwa Qwa Chief Minister Mr Mopeli; and kaNgwane Chief Minister Mr Mabuza. The leaders had attended a luncheon in Cape Town at the invitation of Prime Minister P.W. Botha yesterday. The luncheon was also attended by several cabinet ministers and the various commissioners general. This morning's discussions dealt with the new constitutional dispensation.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Says Idle Land To Be Given to Farmers

MB201912 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpt] His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, has pledged that idle land belonging to absentee landlords will be given to the people for agricultural production. Dr Kaunda said the party fought for independence so that land could be in the hands of the people, and as such it will continue to fight so that this dream is fully realized. The president was addressing party officials at the civic center after touring several markets, shops, and firms in the area as part of his continuing fact-finding mission on prices of commodities. He said the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources will be organized in such a way that it will be able to distribute any idle land or land belonging to absentee landlords to peasants and other farmers for farming.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Discusses Reasons for Changes in Ministries

MB221320 Harare THE HERALD in English 13 Jan 84 pp 1,3

[Interview given by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe to *THE HERALD* at his official residence — date not given]

[Text] *HERALD*: What did the recent reshuffle hope to achieve?

Mugabe: The major reason is economic and financial. The government has got to play its part in reducing expenditure and so we will combine ministries and that process will reduce numbers and therefore expenditure by way of wages and allowances.

HERALD: In real terms, even though there has been a combination of ministries, the budgetary expenditure would remain more or less the same as the structure of the ministries has remained intact.

Mugabe: The Public Service Commission will carry out the actual rationalisation and see who is made redundant and who is not in the combined ministries.

HERALD: Would this be a long-term process?

Mugabe: No, it is not a long-term process: It has begun already. The PSC and myself have concluded this exercise for the permanent secretaries where the ministries have been combined to decide who will be redundant and who will be reassigned. But of course redundancy does not necessarily mean that one would necessarily lose their job; it could mean that they would be reassigned elsewhere. The rest of the exercise to whittle down numbers of civil servants from the deputy secretary downwards will be completed by the PSC.

HERALD: What were your constraints in making the reshuffle?

Mugabe: We have to ensure that the main sectors and the essential services continue to be run efficiently and effectively. In considering the reshuffle of a minister to another department, we have to ensure that he has the proper orientation to carry out government policy in the area where he is going to be placed.

HERALD: To what extent are your personal feelings as a man overshadowed by your position as a prime minister when it comes to reshuffling or dismissing ministers who might be personal friends?

Mugabe: You can't run away from feelings of sympathy. I am a person who is very sympathetic and I do not want to prejudice the career of a man. But where the individual has performed badly I have no sympathy for him as a minister although I may have sympathy with him as a man, an individual. But that sympathy should not be brought into the sphere of governmental activity. No friendships or favouritism should characterise these appointments. They must be done purely on an objective basis that recognises the ability and capability of a minister.

HERALD: Attaining this objectivity in the three to four years that you have been prime minister must have changed you to some extent?

Mugabe: Why? I am still the same character that I was four years ago, only I was not experienced as a prime minister — all of us in government except for the few we drew from the previous government were not experienced. So we have had to learn and along the way we learnt quite a lot about myself, others and our interaction. And this consititutes the resource that we call experience, that we must continue to draw upon.

HERALD: Is there a status difference between a minister and a minister of state in the prime minister or deputy prime minister's office?

Mugabe: No, I have not allowed that difference as in other countries like Zambia, where every minister has as a deputy a minister of state. But here we have confined the position to the offices of the prime minister and the deputy prime minister to raise the status of the minister of state and to qualify him for cabinet. But ministers of state being deputies in the two offices have therefore not as full a responsibility as other ministers because they are accountable to us on a day-to-day basis.

HERALD: Why did you increase the numbers of ministers of state in the Prime Minister's and Deputy Prime Minister's Offices?

Mugabe: We increased the number of ministers of state deliberately. This obviates our having to constitute full ministries. Another consideration of attaching the ministries to our offices was the importance with which we regard them. I have not been happy with the performance of one or two ministries. I regard the Ministry of Industry as being a very important and crucial ministry as it is responsible for regulating the activities of the

manufacturing sector which produces essential goods and commodities. There is also a need to gradually transform that sector from the manufacture of light industrial products to heavier industrial products. The ministry needs more direction. I am not happy with the limited degree of socialism that exists in our manufacturing sector. Where we have our workers we have managed to get them organised into workers' committees. The first step would be to try to form their level so that they can participate in the management of the particular enterprise where they work.

I am also not satisfied with the level of state participation in industry. I want to ensure that from this year onwards, major steps are taken to create socialism by establishing state enterprises, and by state participation in existing industries.

HERALD: Would this mean state takeover of some industries?

Mugabe: No. At present I am loath to take over existing industries as we have not yet acquired the experience to run them.

Zimbabwe must set up her own industries. At the moment we are very unhappy that the degree of investment in the country has been very little, but to whom do we cry? We are not entitled to cry to the outside world. We should be self-reliant and establish and invest in our own industries.

HERALD: Industrialists often complain that they are discouraged and are not able to reinvest because of the high tax structure which undercuts their profits.

Mugabe: Although the argument by industry that the tax structure in Zimbabwe may be too high is sound, it should not prevent them from reinvesting. In the cicumstances they should expend more to increase their volume sales to double their profits.

HERALD: Would the government consider reducing sales taxes on industry as an incentive to reinvest?

Mugabe: If the treasury calculated that there was more to be gained from the reduction of sales taxes, then appropriate measures would be taken.

HERALD: What other incentives would the government initiate to revitalise industry?

Mugabe: Where an enterprise wanted to reinvest their profits, I believe that the government should try to encourage them, by possibly exempting them from paying taxes. Zimbabwe's environment is also conducive to investment. We have assured investors the repatriation of their profits and dividends where the country [as published] is externally based. We have also assured them the repatriation of their capital in the event of their disengagement from Zimbabwe.

HERALD: In 1980 Zimbabwe refused to sign the Overseas Investment Protection Cooperation Agreement (OPIC) on the basis that there were adequate safeguards for industry enshrined in the Constitution. There have been frequent references to changing the Constitution. In that advent would Zimbabwe sign OPIC, or other such agreements to give industry security?

Mugabe: If the Constitution was to change, I do not see why it should change in the aspect that guarantees the rights of individual to repatriate dividends or to be paid for property acquired by the state. But the principle still holds — the guarantees must come form our own laws and not from an agreement regulated by the United States. People should take us on our face value and accept us as we are and trust us.

HERALD: Do you think that the outside world can trust us when they have only known us for four years during our independence?

Mugabe: Yes, I think that four years is long enough. We have honoured all our agreements for the repatriation of funds to the best of our ability. We have proved ourselves.

HERALD: If the reshuffle had been after the ZANU (PF) national congress, would the changes that were made have been more far-reaching?

Mugabe: I do not think so. The national congress would not lay down a criterion on which the prime minister can affect reshuffle or make government appointments. What the congress will do is to spell out policy and the direction the country is taking in internal and foreign affairs. But we expect that congress should be critical of the government, otherwise it zould not be democratic.

HERALD: After the recent Nigeria coup, you suggested that those seeking change should have waited until the general election in that country as they had the choice of voting in another government. In the light of that, what do you think of the argument that a one-party state system reduces alternatives and creates an environment conducive to coups?

Mugabe: I do not think so. I believe that a properly run one-party state would create a better democracy than a multiparty system, if it takes into account other parties and people and represents the community. If there is that accommodation within the one-party state and the central committee of the umbrella organisation reflects these interests, then the one-party state will allow people a high degree of choice and alternative.

HERALD: Are you concerned about the possible activities of those ex-combatants who did not use their demobilisation pay to secure their future when it is no longer paid out to them?

Mugabe: No, I am not worried about them because former ZANLA combatants were highly politicised and would not resort to destructive tendency, and they are aware that the government has done much to rehabilitate them after the war.

HERALD: During the recent blitz on prostitutes, why were the men, who are the ones who create the demand for prostitutes, and hence the supply, not apprehended?

Mugabe: It is appreciated that it is a two-way involvement, but it is easier to pick up the women who operate in a given premises. But if you tell us who the men are that encourage this trade, we will pick them up too.

ZANU-PF Comments on U.S. 'Blackmail' on Aid

MB201900 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The current issue of *ZIMBABWE NEWS*, the official organ of ZANU-PF, says the recent cut in American aid to Zimbabwe should not have come as a surprise. The magazine says the United States is notorious for using big-arm tactics whenever it does not get its way. It says Zimbabwe is an independent sovereign state and should not, therefore, compromise its independence by succumbing to blackmail. It also says Zimbabwe cannot be expected to limp when the United States limps, or jump when the United States [words indistinct]

The magazine wants the Reagan administration to know that Zimbabweans were exploited by one of the most callous and satanic regimes ever to exist, the Smith regime, but were not found wanting. It also points out that the United States has announced its intention to withdraw from UNESCO because it believes the organization is anti-American. *ZIMBABWE NEWS* says if this is not blackmail, nothing else is.